

STARS AND STRIPES®

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begins in
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Kobe Bryant

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CO reassigned
after collision**
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**At 40, Vivica A. Fox
finally finding her
place in show biz**
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2004

50¢

Russia: Plane crash caused by terror act

Downing of 2 flights believed tied to clashes with Chechens Page 12



Empty-handed

Marion Jones finishes without a medal,
coming up short in long jump, 400 relay

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Rejected

U.S. men's basketball team squanders
shot at gold with loss to Argentina

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U.S. coach
Larry Brown

Peace and quiet in Najaf

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A U.S. soldier passes time Friday in an outpost in a damaged hotel in Najaf, Iraq, while awaiting further orders after a peace deal was reached. Meanwhile, militants loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr evacuated the city's holy shrine and turned in Kalashnikov rifles in front of al-Sadr's office. The keys to the shrine were turned over to Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

AP

STARS & STRIPES

COMING
SOON

Scene on Sunday

Shooting down
fitness excuses

Scene on Sunday

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Hurricane Charley aid: President Bush will ask Congress for \$2 billion to help victims of Hurricane Charley, the administration said Thursday.

Bush will make the announcement Friday during a visit to Miami, a senior administration official said on condition of anonymity.

Bush will send Congress the request for emergency supplemental appropriations, which will be used primarily for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Texas gas fire: A blaze at a natural gas storage facility northeast of Houston has burned itself out, but authorities could not say how much longer it will take to finish capping the cavern so more than 30 families can return home.

Natural gas being stored in Duke Energy's Moss Bluff cavern ignited Aug. 19, causing tremors that shook residents from their beds.

On Thursday, firefighters worked to weld a new valve system atop the Liberty County storage cavern.

Hamas hearing: A detention hearing for a man described as a high-ranking Hamas operative was postponed Friday until a magistrate judge could hold a separate hearing on whether to close the proceedings, a court clerk said.

Federal prosecutors have asked U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul W. Grimm to close the detention hearing for Israel Selim Elbarasse, according to a report in Friday's editions of The (Baltimore) Sun.

The magistrate set a hearing on the prosecutors' motion for the same time as the detention hearing, effectively putting the second proceeding on hold, said Fran Kessler, chief deputy clerk for U.S. District Court in Baltimore.

Mike Wallace incident: New York City's Taxi and Limousine Commission said it would not pursue a disorderly conduct charge against 86-year-old CBS newsmen Mike Wallace, who was arrested earlier this month during a confrontation with inspectors outside a Manhattan restaurant.

The "60 Minutes" correspondent was handcuffed and taken to a police precinct on Aug. 10 after he and his driver clashed with inspectors while Wallace picked up a take-out order at a restaurant.

Wallace said he left the restaurant to find two inspectors interviewing his driver, who they said was double-parked. He said he asked the inspectors what was going on and they told him to get back in the car. They arrested him after he pressed them further, he said.

Whitewater judge: A former traffic judge who resigned amid the investigation of the failed Whitewater land deal involving President Clinton — and who was banned from ever hearing cases — has been cleared to return to the bench.

The state Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission, in an Aug. 10 order, lifted its lifetime ban against Bill Watt, commission director James Badami said Thursday.

Watt said he never planned to seek another judgeship, but wanted to clear his name.

"This was the last of the steps to get myself back to where I was without Whitewater," Watt said Thursday.



Severe weather: A cluster of houses remains standing after a mudslide brought about by torrential rains destroyed at least four houses on a hillside Friday in the northern Philippines. No one was injured. Typhoon Aere, which lashed Taiwan and China this week, caused floodings in Manila and northern Philippines that resulted in the death of 17 people, and also caused thousands to flee their homes.

World

Asian bird flu: More money and global attention should be focused on bird flu in Asia to study the virus, which experts fear could mutate and trigger a human pandemic, the World Health Organization said Wednesday.

Vietnam suffered the highest human death toll — 16 people — when the disease broke out in Asia earlier this year. Three more died here last month when the dangerous H5N1 strain struck again, bringing the total to 19.

The WHO's representative in Vietnam, Hans Trosedon, urged wealthier countries to fund more research to answer questions surrounding the disease.

Turkish Cyprus unrest: A bomb exploded before dawn at a Greek Orthodox church in Turkish-occupied north Cyprus on Friday, causing damage but no injuries, authorities said.

Officials said anti-Greek slogans were scribbled on the church.

The attack followed reports in the Turkish Cypriot press that Turkish Cypriot extremist groups had vowed to try to prevent services planned next week at the Saint Mamas church to celebrate its namesake's saint's day.

Mehmet Ali Talat, the premier of the breakaway Turkish Cypriot state recognized only by Turkey, said authorities would press forward with the first service at the church in decades, planned as a gesture of reconciliation between ethnic Turks and Greeks.

North Korea nuclear talks: South Korea's top envoy to North Korea will travel to the United States for high-level talks amid stalled negotiations on getting the communist nation to give up its nuclear weapons program, officials said Friday.

Unification Minister Chung Dong-young will leave Monday for Washington and meet with U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, a ministry spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

nymit.

The two countries want to resolve the nuclear issue with the North in talks that also include China, Japan and Russia. However, the next round of negotiations scheduled to take place by the end of September has been thrown into doubt because the North says it won't attend preparatory meetings.

Pakistan elections: Pakistan's parliament elected Shaukat Aziz, former finance minister and close ally of President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, as prime minister on Friday amid an opposition boycott of the vote.

Aziz received 191 votes in the 342-seat National Assembly, or lower house.

Opposition contender, Javed Hashmi, who is serving a 23-year jail term for attempting to instigate an army rebellion against Musharraf, failed to win any votes.

Opposition lawmakers abstained from voting after the house speaker rejected a request for him to be temporarily freed to attend the election.

hinn.

Thatcher extradition: Equatorial Guinea has asked South Africa to extradite Mark Thatcher, son of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who is under house arrest for his alleged role in a coup plot against the West African nation.

South African authorities arrested the 51-year-old businessman at his home in Cape Town home on Wednesday and charged him with helping to finance a plot to overthrow President Teodoro Obiang of oil-rich Equatorial Guinea.

A lawyer for Obiang's government, Lucie Bourthoumieux, said that Equatorial Guinea has "strong hopes" of achieving the extradition. But lawyers for Thatcher said Friday that the extradition request had little chance of success.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Corrections

■ Text accompanying a photo in Friday's editions misidentified Marine Lt. Gen. Martin R. Berndt, commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe.

■ A story Friday about the Bradley fighting vehicle gave the wrong size for the Bradley's machine gun. It is a 7.62 mm machine gun.

■ Information in Friday's story about Europe-based troops deploying to Afghanistan contained incorrect information. The units are scheduled to deploy in the spring of 2005.

Note to readers

Tom Philpott's Military Update column will resume next week.

Militia members vacate Najaf shrine

Al-Sadr faithful turn in guns, hand over keys as condition of peace deal

By **ABDUL HUSSEIN AL-OBEIDI**

The Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — Thousands of pilgrims streamed into the Imam Ali Shrine on Friday and militants left, handing the keys to Shiite religious authorities after Iraq's top Shiite cleric brokered a peace deal to end three weeks of fighting in the city.

Dozens of Iraqi police and national guardsmen deployed around the compound of the walled, gold-domed shrine in the Old City Friday afternoon — but did not enter. Some kissed the compound's gates, others burst into tears. Some residents of the devastated Old City neighborhood waved to them and yelled out, "Welcome. Welcome."

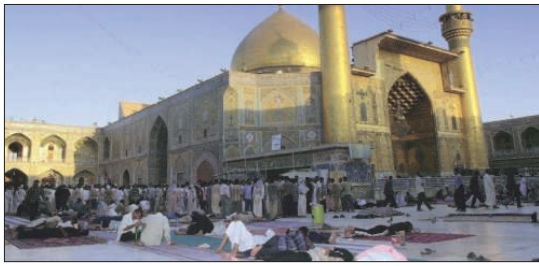
Militants pulled Kalashnikov rifles in front of the offices of the religious, radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. Thousands of al-Sadr's militiamen were still believed to

be armed in the city, though most were staying off the streets. Iraqi forces took control of the Old City and U.S. forces appeared to have maintained their positions. A Marine spokeswoman, Capt. Carrie C. Batson, said the Americans would remain in their positions "until further notice" to "ensure implementation of the terms of the cease-fire," adding that U.S. forces were working at the Iraqi government's request.

Al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, which has risen up against U.S. forces twice this year, remains intact under the peace deal, and al-Sadr will not be arrested. But the transfer of the Imam Ali Shrine, one of Shia Islam's holiest sites, robs them of a refuge and stronghold that helped them stand up against U.S. forces.

American forces could not assault the shrine for fear of enraging Iraq's Shiite majority.

After a day of prayers and cele-



Shiite faithful rest Friday around the Imam Ali Shrine in Najaf. Guns were largely silent in the city Friday for the first time in weeks, after Iraq's top Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani brokered a peace deal between Muqtada al-Sadr's militia, which was using the shrine as a base, and U.S.-Iraq forces.

brations at the shrine, civilians and fighters left, and al-Sadr's followers handed over the keys to the site to religious authorities loyal to Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the

esteemed cleric who secured the peace deal.

Al-Sadr ordered his fighters to lay down their arms and leave Najaf and neighboring Kufa after agreeing to the peace deal in a face-to-face meeting the night before with al-Sistani.

Iraq's interim government also accepted the deal, which calls for all U.S. troops to leave the city. Police briefly exchanged fire with militants in one part of town Friday, and some U.S. troops were still receiving occasional fire.

Al-Sistani's highly publicized, 11th-hour peace mission also boosts his already high prestige in Iraq, showing that only he could force an accord between two sides that loathe each other.

Inside the shrine, the crowds mingled with Mahdi Army fighters and performed noon prayers. Afterwards, civilians and militants streamed out, with some militants chanting "Muqtada, Muqtada."

By the afternoon, the shrine appeared empty, clear of the visitors and the militants.

There was no immediate word when the U.S. military would pull out. Iraqi State Minister Qasim Dawoud said U.S. and coalition forces would pull out of Najaf as soon as interim Prime Minister Ayad Alawi ordered it.

Dawoud added that the government would not try to arrest al-Sadr.

In Baghdad, guerrillas attacked a U.S. patrol four times with grenades wounding 12 U.S. soldiers, the Army said. Four suspects were detained on suspicion of involvement in the attacks, the Army said.

Also, U.S. warplanes bombed positions in the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, west of Baghdad, witnesses said. There was no immediate word on casualties or damage.

A U.S. soldier was killed in a vehicle accident and a second seriously injured near Fallujah, the military said.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Thursday, 966 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 723 died as a result of hostile action and 243 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 64 deaths: Italy, 18; Spain, 11; Poland, 10; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, six; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, 1. Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 828 U.S. servicemembers have died — 614 as a result of hostile action and 214 of nonhostile causes, according to the military's numbers Thursday.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command:

■ A U.S. soldier was killed by a mortar attack Wednesday in Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Jacob R.

Lugo, 21, Flower Mound, Texas; killed Tuesday in Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twenty-nine Palms, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Alexander S. Arredondo, 20, Randolph, Mass.; killed Wednesday in Najaf; assigned to Battalion Landing Team 4, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Soldiers in Najaf skeptical about latest deal with militia

By **JASON CHUDY**

Stars and Stripes

NAJAF, Iraq — Soldiers here woke up Friday to word that the Medhi militia, holed up around the Imam Ali Shrine, was giving up after a deal was reached between religious leaders and the Iraqi government.

But despite word that fighting should be over, soldiers aren't rejoicing. Skepticism reigns.

"They've done this before," said Spc. Gary Price of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment. "I think that this is just the militia's way to re-supply and move in more troops to fight a little more."

The cease-fire that preceded the call for the militia to lay down its arms wasn't the end of fighting.

"The idea of a cease-fire is that they'll not fire at you," said Spc. Jerry White, 24, of Gainesville, Fla. "But they'll sure throw grenades at you."

At least five of the battalion's soldiers were wounded after the cease-fire, so the announcement that the fighting is over was taken with a grain of salt.

"Nobody's talking about it," said Spc. Daniel Ethridge, 23, of Leesburg, Ga. "But



JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Michael Sherman, 28, of Hawaiian Gardens, Calif., has his photo taken by Sgt. Jim Davis, 34, of Kokomo, Ind., on Friday in front of the gold-domed Imam Ali mosque in Najaf, Iraq. Earlier that morning, the soldiers found out an agreement was reached to remove militia members around the mosque.

everyone's sitting with their fingers crossed hoping that this thing stays."

"I hope so," said Company A's Spc. Ron-

nie Dudley, 23, of Council Bluffs, Iowa. "My focus isn't on your surrender, my focus is on whether or not our radios are

working or if we have extra batteries." "If I'd put odds on it, I'd be 30 percent sure," said White.

If that 30 percent holds true, the soldiers hope to leave for Camp Cooke in Tajikistan, north of Baghdad, as soon as possible.

"We're focusing on getting back to Tajik," said Ethridge of 27 Cav's mortar platoon. "Oh yeah, air conditioning and regular showers. That's good."

"It'll be just as good as the Hilton," said Price, "the next best thing to home. I want to get some sleep for a change."

Plus a shower. Price and others in the company haven't showered for nearly three weeks.

"We really stink," said Price, 26, of Sierra Vista, Ariz., getting nods of agreement from other nearby soldiers. "We've been living in a trash dump for the last week." As well as a change in location, the pending move to Camp Cooke brings a change in the type of combat they can expect.

"Tajik has a lot more improvised explosive devices," said Ethridge. "Here there are a lot more rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire — a whole lot more."

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.starsandstripes.com

Bush admits 'miscalculation' on Iraq

Insurgency a result of quick win, he believes

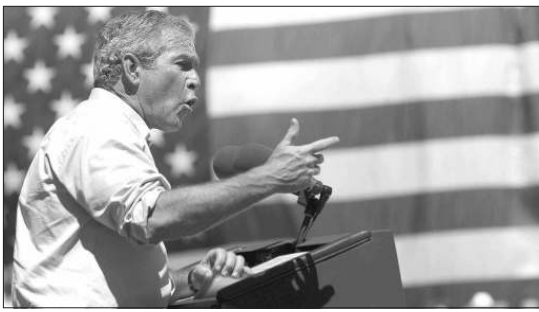
By PETE YOST

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush, undertaking a heavy campaign schedule in key states in the run-up to the Republican National Convention, acknowledges a "miscalculation" about what the United States would encounter in postwar Iraq after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.

In a six-day tour of battleground states starting Friday in Miami, Bush wants to demonstrate his ambition to reach beyond his conservative base and appeal to undecided voters. In doing so, he is advancing the argument that the country will be safer with him in charge because he makes the tough decisions and sticks with them.

Meanwhile, Democratic challenger John Kerry campaigned in California on Friday, accusing Bush of ignoring the middle class



THE FARMINGTON, N.M., DAILY TIMES-AP

President Bush makes a point of speaking to approximately 10,500 people Thursday during a campaign speech in Farmington. Also Thursday, The New York Times published an interview in which the president said for the first time that he made a "miscalculation of what the conditions would be" after U.S. troops went to Iraq and toppled Saddam Hussein's regime in May 2003. He deemed the Iraqi insurgency as an unintended result of a "swift victory" that led to Iraqi troops disappearing into the cities.

and being out of touch with ordinary Americans.

"Either the president doesn't have a plan or the president is out of touch with what's happening to real Americans," Kerry told an audience in the San Francisco area. "I think what we need is leader-

ship that knows how hard this struggle is."

In an interview with The New York Times, Bush said for the first time that he made a "miscalculation of what the conditions would be" after U.S. troops went to Iraq and toppled Saddam's regime in

May 2003. The insurgency, he said, was the unintended result of a "swift victory" that led to Iraqi troops disappearing into the cities and mounting a rebellion.

Bush also told The Times that he did not believe Kerry had lied about his service in Vietnam. The

group Swift Boat Veterans for Truth has aired advertisements challenging Kerry's account of his service and claiming Kerry lied about circumstances surrounding his war medals. Kerry has accused Bush of using the group as a front to run a smear campaign.

"I think Senator Kerry should be proud of his record," Bush said. "No, I don't think he lied."

Elaborating on Bush's comments about Kerry, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said there were "things we expected to happen that did not happen" such as a flood of refugees, starvation and widespread destruction of oil fields.

McClellan said the United States had expected Iraq's Republican Guard forces to stand and fight rather than disappear into the population. "That created a different set of circumstances on the ground that we had to adjust to and deal with, and we are," he said.

The president carries his message about the war in Iraq and the other big issue in the campaign, the economy, to seven states before the convention next week in New York, where the party will officially name Bush as its candidate in the Nov. 2 election. On Friday, Kerry talked about the economy in California as he promised to curb credit card fees and protect home buyers and military families from unfair lending practices a pitch aimed squarely at voters' checkbooks.

As Abu Ghraib hits courts, brass won't face charges

By JOSH WHITE
AND THOMAS E. RICKS

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The dramatic failure revealed by two investigations into abuse of Iraqi detainees will haunt the Army for months or even years as defense attorneys explore them in court in attempts to mitigate accusations and ease punishments for more than a score who could be charged, military legal experts said Thursday.

But the senior officers cited for indirectly allowing abuse to flourish at Abu Ghraib prison will not face charges under the findings of an Army report issued this week — a fact that three Army generals explained and defended Thursday in interviews. Those in the U.S. command structure who failed to supervise their subordinates, who handed down unclear and in some cases illegal policies, and who ignored signs of abuse were found in Army reports to be "responsible" for the problems, but not "culpable" because they did not have a direct hand in the mistreatment.

"That's the differentiation that's being made," Gen. Paul Kern, who supervised the Army's most recent investigation, said in an interview Thursday with Washington Post editors and reporters.

"Are we letting them off the hook? I don't think so. In fact, we put the spotlight on them and said, 'You didn't do your job right.'"

Two investigative reports released this week detailed a wider scope of abuse at Abu Ghraib than was previously known, involving military intelligence soldiers, consistent use of illegal tactics and a collapsed leadership — findings and evidence that their client was following orders when they were captured in photographs showing abuse at Abu Ghraib.

Pfc. Lynndie England's attorneys have said they want to put the reports into evidence and begin mining them for additional witnesses, contradictory testimony and evidence that their client was following orders when she was captured in photographs showing abuse at Abu Ghraib.

"Both reports leave two options for what happened: that it was a failed command structure that led to the abuses, or that the failed command structure is a cover-up to hide sanctioned violations of the law," said Richard Hernandez, England's lead defense attorney. "I think it clearly confirms what we've been saying all along."

Military lawyers said the Army's conclusions about poor leadership

are unlikely to exonerate soldiers — unless evidence emerges showing direct orders to commit the abuse — but said the findings could ease sentences.

Retired Marine Brig. Gen. David Brahms, 26 years a military lawyer and now a defense lawyer in Carlsbad, Calif., said the defense is sure to use the leadership failures in an attempt to soften the blow of the other findings.

"You want this evidence," he said. "A badly trained soldier who was not properly prepared by his seniors to deal with the chaos of Abu Ghraib, with guidelines that are fuzzy at best, and with pressure from above to demean and soften up prisoners — that could cause members to think: Shouldn't we be lenient? It becomes an extenuating factor."

For the Army's officer corps, one of the most painful aspects of the scandal is that no officer came forward to stop it, even though many should have known what was going on.

"The embarrassing thing to all of us is that it was a young soldier who first raised his hand," Kern said.

Military experts and retired officers said they were especially disturbed by the findings, in the report by Kern, Marine Gen. George Fay and Lt. Gen. Anthony

FINDINGS

No single cause that resulted in Abu Ghraib abuse.
The primary causes of the detainee abuse were individual misconduct, a lack of discipline, and leadership failure.
Vast majority of Soldiers performed duties appropriately, honorably, and in accordance with law and regulations.

Gen. Paul Kern, head investigator of the latest Abu Ghraib prison report, speaks at the Pentagon on Wednesday. Kern said the differentiation being made is that top military brass is "responsible" for the problems at the prison, but not "culpable."

Jones, of insubordination among Army units, which they took to be a worrisome sign of leadership problems.

"It's a black spot on the Army," said retired Army Col. John Antal, who commanded a training regiment at Fort Knox, Ky. "Any professional soldier sees this, it tears his heart."

Rep. Jim Marshall, D-Ga., a son and grandson of Army generals who was a reconnaissance platoon sergeant in the Army during the Vietnam War, said he was surprised by the account in the Fay report of enlisted soldiers telling an officer from another unit to buzz off when he told them to stop beating an Iraqi detainee. "It is completely unacceptable to have an Army in which a lieutenant would see behavior like that and not stop it," he said. "If that is

symptomatic of today's officer corps, that needs to be changed."

Kern said Thursday that while he is troubled by the abuses, he wants to remind the public that those responsible represent a tiny fraction of the more than 200,000 U.S. soldiers and civilians who were in Iraq at the time, doing their jobs admirably.

"We have all these people who are every single day going out there doing the right thing, more than 200 have been killed," he said. "We have people who are conducting investigations correctly, we have people who are conducting security correctly, we have people who we know stories of where they are sharing food, helping people, doing things the right way. We have thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, that are out there ... doing good things."

Marines unlikely to press charges in van fire

Man set government vehicle ablaze after receiving news of son's death in Iraq

BY KEN THOMAS
The Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — They are highly trained, field-tested Marines, and like many in their number they have an unenviable task: to tell families that a loved one has been killed.

But nothing could have prepared 1st Sgt. Timothy Shipman and the two Marines in his team for Carlos Arredondo's reaction.

In his grief upon being told his Marine son was dead, Arredondo set their government vehicle ablaze and seriously burned himself.

"Just like training for combat, you train for 98 percent of the things that you might face," said Maj. Scott Mack, a unit leader at the Hialeah-based scout and anti-tank platoon of the 8th Tank Battalion. For everything else, he said, "you rely on instinct."

The Marines would not press charges "out of compassion and

sensitivity" to Arredondo, Mack said.

Capt. Tony Rode, a Hollywood police spokesman, said it was premature to discuss possible charges against Arredondo, but said it was unlikely.

"If you have any ounce of sympathy or compassion, you'd choose not to charge an individual who receives such horrific news about his son," he said.

The Marines arrived at Arredondo's door Wednesday afternoon to tell him that his 20-year-old son, Lance Cpl. Alexander Arredondo of Randolph, Mass., had been killed in combat in Iraq.

As they tried to console him, the father walked into the garage, picked up a propane tank, a can of gasoline and a propane torch. He smashed the van's window, got inside and set it ablaze, despite pleas from the Marines to stop.



A portrait of Lance Cpl. Alexander Arredondo lies on the front porch of his father, Carlos Arredondo, in Hollywood, Fla., on Thursday, as part of a simple memorial to the Marine killed in Iraq.

The Marines, reservists who are members of a military Casualty Assistance Calls team, pulled Arredondo, 44, from the burning vehicle and extinguished the flames on him. None of the Marines suffered injuries. Wednesday was Arredondo's 44th birthday.

Military officials could not recall a similar incident from bereaved relatives.

"They range in emotion from stunned silence to crying and weeping," said Gunnery Sgt. Kristine Scarber, a Marines spokeswoman. "As far as we know, this is the first time anyone has ever been violent."

Alexander Arredondo, who turned 20 this month, grew up in

Norwood, Mass., and moved to Randolph in 1999, according to his mother, Victoria Foley, who told the Patriot Ledger of Quincy that her son "knew at age 16 that he wanted to go into the Marines."

He joined shortly after he graduated from Blue Hills Regional Technical School in 2002.

Foley, of Bangor, Maine, was divorced from Carlos Arredondo in the late 1980s. She said she spoke to her son the day he died, the Ledger reported.

"He said that it was going to get bad, and he was really happy where he was, Najaf. He was upset," Foley said.

Mack said Carlos Arredondo, an immigrant from Costa Rica, had been upgraded to special com-

mission with burns over 26 percent of his body at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Arredondo's wife, Melinda, told Marine officials he was doing "much better."

Mack credited Shipman and his two team members, Staff Sgt. Abraham Negron and Gunnery Sgt. Syril Melvin, for their response to the incident. He said they could have tackled Arredondo before he set the van ablaze but wisely avoided making matters worse.

Shipman, meanwhile, said his focus was on the Arredondo family.

"The Marine Corps is small. You lose a Marine, everyone feels the pain," Shipman said. Neighbors said Carlos Arredondo had been a friendly and helpful neighbor since moving there six months ago. They responded by helping clean up debris from the charred street and putting his tools in the shed.

An American flag was draped over a bush and a small shrine was set up by the front door, including a photo of the young man in his uniform, a vase holding pink and white carnations and a small blue placard that read: "Tell the kids I love them. — God."

The Defense Department confirmed Thursday that Arredondo died in Najaf, Iraq. Arredondo was assigned to the Marine Corps Base in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Alexander Arredondo will be buried in Norwood, according to his stepmother.

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Fort Carson commander weighing courts-martial

The Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — The officer who oversaw the hearings of three soldiers accused of forcing two Iraqis to jump into the Tigris River has made his recommendation about whether the men should face courts-martial.

The Army confirmed Thursday that Capt. Robert Ayers has sent his report on the case to Maj. Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, which includes Fort Carson's 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

No details about the report will be released until Thurman decides what to do, division spokesman Lt. Col. Jonathan Whittington said.

The three soldiers — Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Perkins, Sgt. Reggie

Martinez and Spc. Terry Bowman — and the platoon commander, 1st Lt. Jack Saville, are accused of making Zaidoun Fadel Hassoun and his cousin, Marwan Hassoun, jump off the bridge after they were picked up for violating a curfew.

The Army said Zaidoun Fadel Hassoun died but defense lawyers argued during a hearing last month that no body was ever found.

During the hearing, three U.S. Army commanders testified under immunity and admitted that soldiers were told to cover up the incident.

They said they didn't believe either of the men had died.

A hearing will be held Sept. 8 at Fort Carson to determine whether Saville should face a court-martial.

The three soldiers and their platoon commander are accused of making Zaidoun Fadel Hassoun and his cousin, Marwan Hassoun, jump off the bridge.

FBI bulletin says VA hospitals may be terror targets

By CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Al-Qaida may attempt to attack Veterans Affairs hospitals as an alternative to more heavily guarded U.S. military installations, the FBI and Homeland Security Department warn in a new nationwide terrorism bulletin.

Although U.S. authorities say there is no credible intelligence regarding a specific threat

against such hospitals, the bulletin said there have been persistent reports of "suspicious activity" at medical facilities throughout the United States. That includes "possible reconnaissance activities" this year at unspecified military medical facilities in Bethesda, Maryland, and Aurora, Colorado, the bulletin said. Even though later investigation of these two incidents uncovered no links to terrorism, the bulletin urges vigilance at VA hospitals on the part of police and security personnel.

"These facilities may be considered attractive targets due to their association with the military and may be more successful than an attack against traditional military targets ..."

Homeland Security Department bulletin

their association with the military and a perception that such an attack may be more successful than an attack against traditional military targets, which generally maintain a more robust security posture," the bulletin says.

Bethesda, located just outside Washington, is home of the National Naval Medical Center, which is across the street from the sprawling National Institutes of Health.

Aurora, located just east of Denver, is home of the former Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, now being redeveloped into a civilian medical school.

The Department of Veterans Affairs operates 163 hospitals in the United States, with at least one in each of the 48 contiguous states as well as in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

There are also hundreds of VA clinics and nursing homes.

The bulletin was circulated among law enforcement and security personnel nationwide Thursday.

The Associated Press obtained a copy Friday.



SHNS

The commander of the USS John F. Kennedy, who was in charge when the aircraft carrier collided with a small wooden boat in the Persian Gulf last month, was reassigned to Carrier Group 6 in Florida.

Kennedy commander relieved of duty following July collision

By SCOTT SCHONAUER
Stars and Stripes

The Navy relieved the commander of the USS Kennedy on Friday because of last month's collision between the aircraft carrier and a small wooden boat.

Capt. Stephen G. Squires, who took command of the ship about five months ago, has been reassigned to Carrier Group 6 in Mayport, Fla., a Navy official said.

Capt. John W. Miller, the former commanding officer of the now-decommissioned USS Constellation, will replace Squires, the Navy announced. Miller most recently served in the policy division of the Joint Staff at the Pentagon.

The Navy has not completed an

investigation into the July 22 collision in the Persian Gulf between the Kennedy and the boat, called a dhow.

Although the report is not finished, the U.S. 5th Fleet in Manama, Bahrain, removed Squires based on the preliminary findings, a Navy official said.

At the time of the collision, the carrier was conducting night-flight operations. The investigation is looking into how the carrier and the boat could get so close, especially when the ship's crew is supposed to be looking out for small or large boats.

The Navy implemented numerous force-protection measures after the October 2000 USS Cole bombing in Yemen.

The attackers used a small ex-

ploded boat to ram into the Cole as it refueled at a port, killing 17 sailors.

The removal of Squires is considered an administrative action. If there is any disciplinary action taken, it is likely to occur after the investigation is completed.

The removal of Squires adds to a series of problems that have plagued the Kennedy the past three years.

In December 2001, the ship flunked a readiness test after inspectors found problems with the aircraft elevators and catapults. The commanding officer and other top officers were sacked.

The Kennedy is currently deployed to the Persian Gulf region in support of coalition forces in Iraq.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: schonauers@mail.estripes.ondsl

Missouri plan to let deployed GIs cast e-votes raises concerns

By JO BECKER
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A plan to make the presidential battleground of Missouri the first state to allow military voters serving in combat zones such as Iraq to cast their absentee ballots via e-mail is renewing concerns about the security of online voting.

Missouri Secretary of State Matt Blunt, a Republican running for governor, announced the plan Wednesday, saying that "simplifying the voting process for these heroes is the least we can do." The move surprised some computer security experts and voting watchdog groups, who said Thursday that the new rules could lead to Election Day fraud.

Under a deal with the Defense Department, Blunt's office said, Missouri voters serving in desig-

Experts, groups fear new rule could lead to Election Day fraud

"Simplifying the voting process for these heroes is the least we can do."

Matt Blunt

Missouri Secretary of State, and running for governor

nated combat areas will have the option of filling out absentee ballots, scanning them into a computer file and e-mailing the scanned document back to the Defense Department. The department will fax the ballot to local Missouri election officials.

Missouri is the first state to adopt such a system, according to the Defense Department, which sees it as a way to ensure that military voters do not disenfranchise themselves. "This provides an alternative ... for citizens who believe the regular absentee ballot cannot be received, voted and returned by mail in time to be counted," said Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a department spokeswoman.

In February, the Defense Department dropped a \$22 million

plot plan to test Internet voting for 100,000 U.S. military workers and civilians overseas after a panel of scientists identified security concerns. The agency said it could not ensure the legitimacy of votes cast online.

Missouri's system is different, Krenke said, because it is not en-

tirely based on the Internet. The ballots are signed and then scanned before being e-mailed so local election officials will be able to compare voters' signatures to ones on file.

Service members who use the system will forfeit keeping their ballot secret; the Defense Department and county officials will know the candidate chosen. Krenke said the military will use fax numbers to create an audit trail, and all ballots returned to local election officials will contain an official cover sheet. The type of e-mail software will depend on what is available in the field, she said.

The state has not done an independent study of the new system's security, said Blunt spokes-

man Spence Jackson. "We trust the military," he said.

But Bruce Schneier, a computer security expert on the board for the National Committee for Voting Integrity, said that the public has a right to more details about how the system will work. How will independent observers ensure that the Defense Department does not "lose ballots"? he asked. "There's been no discussion, no audits, no information about how will it prevent phony votes or hacking."

Missouri is setting itself up to be the next Florida.

Elliott Minchberg, legal director for the People for the American Way Foundation, said he is concerned that service members will feel pressured by commanders and colleagues to give up their right to vote in secret. "We are going to look closely at this," he said.

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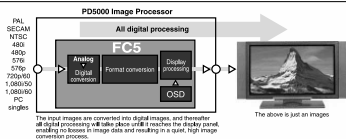
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HITACHI

Gaylor shares lifetime of motivational stories

BY RON JENSEN

Stars and Stripes

RAF MILDENHALL, England — Everybody knows how to do something, Robert Gaylor told his audience on Thursday.

And what does he do?

"I can talk," he said.

Boy, can he. For more than one hour, the fifth chief master sergeant of the Air Force used humor and the memories of 31 years in the Air Force to have nearly 300 airmen in the base chapel rocking with laughter, applauding and, finally, on their feet with an ovation.

Perhaps, too, he gave them something to think about.

"As you sit here right now, you have talents and skills I do not have," he said. "What you ought to do is look in the mirror and ask, 'Is the world ready for this?'"

Gaylor, 74, joined the military in 1948 and retired in 1979, before many in his audience were born. But his presentation proves funny stories and common sense have no generational bias.

Since about 1996, he has been traveling to Air Force bases around the world to deliver his motivational message, forsaking any pay except the usual travel per diem. When not talking to troops, he addresses corporate audiences, which do pay him for his words of wisdom.

Retired chief master sergeant offers insights to airmen



RON JENSEN/Stars and Stripes

Retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Robert Gaylor, 74, speaks Friday to a packed house at the base chapel on RAF Mildenhall, England. Nearly 300 airmen listened to Gaylor's motivational talk, sprinkled with memories and humor.

Gaylor, who is in England to attend master sergeant promotion ceremonies at both RAF Mildenhall and RAF Lakenheath this weekend, has an easy way with a funny line.

He said he has been married to his wife Selma for 51 years and

then revealed their secret.

"We go out to eat one night a week," he said. "She goes Tuesdays. I go Fridays."

But his humor often is to make a point. To illustrate his belief that everyone has the potential to be the most important person on

the base, he told a story about Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., at the start of the war against the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Two B-2 stealth bombers were about to leave on a 44-hour mission. Everyone on base turned out, but in a final pre-flight check,

someone noticed there was no food on board for the crews. An order was made and an airman soon pulled up at the aircraft.

"He leaped out with box lunches and got a standing ovation," Gaylor said to laughter. "At that moment, the dude with the bologna sandwiches was the most important person at Whiteman AFB."

Some in the audience had heard Gaylor before and asked for particular stories. He granted one request for the "salad story."

In this one, he told of visiting Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, some years ago and meeting the food service crew, including the airman who diced radishes.

With relish, Gaylor re-created his conversation with the unhappy, poorly motivated, complaining radish dicer.

On the other hand, he said, he once met the airman who makes salads at Torrejon Air Base in Spain, who told him, "I'm a salad maker, possibly one of the world's finest."

The story illustrates the importance of attitude, he said.

"Some of you have high aptitudes and low attitudes," he said.

But, he said, attitude is often a result of leadership. Of the unhappy radish dicer, he said, "I suspect if you look at his chain of command, you will find a very weak supervisor."

E-mail Ron Jensen at: jensenr@mail.esr.af.mil.

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Coast Guard officials would like Seaman Carson Corbin of Miami — shown readying his .60-caliber machine gun on the deck of the Coast Guard cutter Thunder Bay during a demonstration in the Hudson River in New York on Thursday — and his fellow seamen to consider joining the Coast Guard when their Navy service is done.

AP



Former seamen are ideal fit for Coast Guard slots

By SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Sailors getting out of the Navy have a new job opportunity: the U.S. Coast Guard.

Congress has given the Coast Guard funding to boost its end-strength by 1,000 recruits next year, and Coast Guard officials ideally want sailors because of the military experience they've acquired on active duty or the reserves, said Capt. Bruce Vielman, commanding officer of the Arlington, Va.-based Coast Guard Recruiting Command.

Any of the 75 jobs, or ratings, that sailors hold would transfer into one of the 17 active-duty or 19 Reserve component ratings within the Coast Guard, he said.

The military service, which falls under the Department of Homeland Security, has had no problems in the past recruiting members, with last year marking "the second best year on record for the Coast Guard going back at least 30 years," Vielman said.

However, this year there is more of a push to lure sailors and others with prior military service.

The 40,000-member Coast Guard is offering signing bonuses of up to \$5,000 for some active-duty jobs, and up to \$6,000 to entice members to their Reserve component. The bonus amounts vary depending on the rating or job, and the recruits' experience and time in service, Vielman said.

"Coast Guard pay is exactly the same as the other services," he said. "We have the same exact pay and rank structure."

And most allowances and benefits also mirror the other services, such as Basic Allowance for Housing, Tricare benefits, Basic Allowance for Subsistence, Imminent Danger Pay, and tax-free pay in combat zones, to name a few, he said.

Vielman notes that a member cannot be obligated to more than one service at any one time.

"If the servicemember is in the reserves, Selected Reserve or [Individual Ready Reserve], a DD368 'Conditional Release' is required before a member can enlist in the Coast Guard or Coast Guard Reserve.

"If the servicemember is on active duty, a DD214 'Certificate of Release from Active Duty' is required to actually enlist."

Eligible sailors include those taking advantage of the Navy's expanded early-out program, in which an anticipated 400 to 600 sailors will separate up to a year earlier than planned.

The early-out program was changed last month to let sailors separate a year early rather than six months early. It is not available to sailors under a selective re-enlistment bonus or in a rating that is SRB-eligible, or for SEALs, explosive ordnance disposal sailors, divers, Special Warfare Combatant-craft crewman, or those in a nuclear rating.

The Coast Guard is disadvantaged slightly in its recruitment effort because it's not part of the Defense Department. The Navy and Army have partnered in the new "Blue to Green" program, in which the Army aims to bolster its ranks with former sailors and airmen.

To help in the effort, the Navy shares names of departing sailors with the Army. There's no such agreement or sharing between the Navy and Coast Guard, said Vielman, and Navy spokesman Lt. Kyle Raines.

"We don't have the same legal provision to transfer that information," he said, citing privacy laws.

"The Navy has no formalized program with the Coast Guard, but there have been preliminary and informal discussions ... and

we're looking at aspects of sharing of information to make sure if anything is done, everything is done legally," Raines said.

Those interested in applying should contact a recruiter. Recruiting office locations by state are listed on www.gcoastguard.com along with specific requirements. Those interested also can call (877) NOW-USCG.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Spc. gets 11 years for indecent acts with girls

By STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — Four years ago, Spc. Tavaras Ridley lured two young girls into acts of sex in his on-base apartment, then lied about it to authorities.

Last year, he also committed an indecent act in the front hallway of a woman's apartment as she looked on.

With bowed head and tears, the part-time minister begged his family, the victims, God and a military court for forgiveness Friday at his Army court-martial after pleading guilty to charges of committing indecent acts, sodomy and making a false official statement.

"I had no right to do the things that I've done," said Ridley, 27, of the 601st Aviation Support Battalion in Katterbach, Germany. "I repent to God ... I turned my back on him, and I've disgraced his name."

Judge (Col.) Stephanie Browne, sentenced him to 40 years in prison, reduction to the lowest enlisted rank and a dishonorable discharge. A plea bargain with prosecutors, though, will limit his sentence to 11 years.

Ridley told the court the acts took place between June and December 2000, on at least three separate occasions, with one or both of the girls — ages 6 and 8, respectively, at the time.

In August 2001, according to a court document, one of the girls told an adult about the abuse. Confronted by the girls' mother,

Ridley denied it and told the mother that she should punish them for lying.

Two years later, Ridley admitted, he falsely denied the incident at another woman's house to military police investigators, and this spring he told them he hadn't molested the girls. Later, though, he confessed and has been in jail since June.

Ridley's mother and his church pastor testified by telephone from Nashville, Tenn. Both said he had seemed to be an unusually happy child who had been heavily involved in his church until he joined the Army in 1996. The Rev. Barton Harris described Ridley as a gifted minister.

"Certainly I'm surprised by some of the behavior, but it doesn't change the way I feel about him," Harris said. "He is so exceptional when it comes to preaching, and leading the people of God. I want him back."

Ridley said his seemingly happy childhood covered a secret: A cousin molested him for three years when he was young. He said he didn't tell his family about it until 2002.

The prosecutor, Maj. Shane Barte, said Ridley had created a "warped, twisted and dangerous world" for the girls. He asked Browne for "significant" punishment for the crimes.

"It's really misconduct of the worst kind," Barte said. "The perpetrator was in a position of authority, and the victims were weak and vulnerable."

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.stripes.osd.mil

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German town's memorial honors U.S. airmen

BY LISA HORN
Stars and Stripes

RÜSSELSHEIM, Germany — Sgt. Thomas Williams had a nightmare so horrible it woke up his entire household.

Unfortunately, that dream materialized for the young airman and his fellow B-24 crewmembers on Aug. 26, 1944, when their flight into Germany went terribly wrong.

For the eight B-24 flyers, it would be their first and last mission together.

"He woke the whole house up with a nightmare, dreaming that he was being beaten to death by German civilians," said Eugene (Sidney) Brown, the last living survivor of the massacre. "When [the attack] began to happen, [the nightmare] just unfolded right before his eyes."

Brown said he heard about the nightmare months after the incident from Williams' fiancée.

Williams, the crew's radio operator, along with Norman J. Rogers Jr., pilot, John Sekul, co-pilot; William Dunmont, belly gunner; Elmer Austin, machine gunner; and Haigis Tufenkjian, bombardier and navigator, were beaten to death by a mob as the airmen were marched through Rüsselsheim by German soldiers.

The town was damaged repeatedly during the war and had suffered another bombing by the Royal Air Force the night before the airmen were attacked. The townspeople, thinking the American crew were British flyers, yelled insults at the crew. The confrontation later escalated to violence and the eventual deaths of six of the men.

Brown, the crew's tail-gunner, and Sgt. William Adams survived and managed to sneak out of the cart they were piled in with their dead comrades.

The 79-year-old Brown and his wife, Dorothy, were present Thursday at the unveiling of a memorial honoring the airmen. The memorial sits at the site where the airmen were killed.

"When I got over here, I thought everyone was very sincere in their apologies and rightfully so," said Brown, who first visited Rüsselsheim in 2001. "I think the memorial is great ... to honor them. I think it's appropriate, but it does bring back some pretty harsh memories."

Roughly 200 people gathered in Thursday's rain to witness the monument's unveiling.

Robert Masters, an American who has lived in Rüsselsheim for 30 years and is a designer at the local Opel plant, said he learned more in this past week from local newspaper articles than he ever knew before.

"I heard about [the attack] even before I came here," said Masters, who admired the memorial with his family late Thursday. "[People] didn't elaborate much about it; I only heard bits and pieces."

When he first heard of plans to construct the monument, Master said he was a little apprehensive about how the local citizens would react. Some of the relatives of the people who were tried and later hanged still live in Rüsselsheim.

But now, Masters said, he is glad to see the memorial and the lines of communication it has opened among residents — young and old.



PHOTOS BY LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

Above: From right, Eugene (Sidney) Brown; Dagmar Eichhorn, a principal proponent of the memorial; and Madeline Tenery, along with Rüsselsheim residents, unveil a monument memorializing Brown's comrades killed by an angry mob in Rüsselsheim on Aug. 26, 1944. **Below:** Brown and his wife, Dorothy, applaud one of the speakers at the memorial unveiling in Rüsselsheim, Germany.

The memorial's dedication comes during a year of evolution for German-American relations — for the first time, a German official was present at the 60th D-Day invasion anniversary in June, and President Bush's announcement that the majority of U.S. troops will be leaving Germany permanently after 60 years.

Augusto Nigro, author of "Wolf-sangel," a narrative on the slayings of the airmen and the eventual trial of those involved, said the memorial couldn't have come at a better time.

"Several townspeople welcomed the opportunity to unburden themselves of something they had kept secret," for so many years, Nigro said.

Horrell@mail.estrines.osd.mil



Two airmen guilty on drug charges

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — Two airmen assigned to the 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron were convicted in separate courts-martial Thursday of using cocaine.

Senior Airman Alberto Pena pleaded guilty to purchasing and using cocaine and was sentenced to six months in jail, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge. Airman 1st Class Benjamin D. Blassingame pleaded guilty to using cocaine and was sentenced to three months in jail, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

Pena and Blassingame were the fifth and sixth airmen to be prosecuted as a result of a December raid into dormitories on base. Three other airmen had been sentenced earlier in August. Another court-martial is under way, and eight others are possible.

Servicemembers urged to avoid Heppenheim

U.S. Army Europe officials are urging U.S. servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians and their families to avoid the area in and around Heppenheim, Germany, on Saturday.

A right-wing extremist demonstration and rally is planned for 2 p.m. at the train station and continuing downtown to the suburban areas of Heppenheim. There is a strong possibility that the left-wing extremists will hold a counter-demonstration and violence could occur between the two groups.

Tickets available for 'California Suite'

The Kaiserslautern Military Community theater, Onstage, will present Neil Simon's "California Suite" for six shows in September. "California Suite" is four different stories, all of which take place in one Beverly Hills hotel suite: a couple re-uniting for the sake of their daughter; a married man who wakes up with a passed-out stranger in his bed and his unsuspecting wife coming through the door; a British couple in town for the Oscar ceremony and four "best friends" on a vacation together that is just a little too long.

Performances will be Sept. 10-11, 17-18, and 24-25. All shows will start at 7 p.m., and will be performed at KMC Onstage on Kleber-Kaserne, Building 3232. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for students. The play is not recommended for children under 12. They can be reserved by calling DSN 483-7127, civilian 0631-411-7127, or by e-mailing: KMCOnstage@yahoo.com.

From staff reports

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IN THE WORLD

Russians: Terrorist act downed plane

BY MARA D. BELLABY

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian officials declared Friday that a terrorist act downed one of the two planes in this week's near simultaneous

crashes after the wreckage revealed traces of a high explosive used in past attacks blamed on Chechen separatists.

A Web site connected to Islamic militants, meanwhile, claimed the crashes that killed 90 were retaliation

for Russia's ongoing war in Chechnya, and warned it was only the first in a series of planned operations. The claim's veracity could not be confirmed.

Russian officials also announced that they were investigating the backgrounds of two female passengers with Chechen names who booked tickets on both flights at the last minute and who were the only victims whose relatives have not contacted authorities.

The first official confirmation that terrorists infiltrated Russia's civil aviation industry — a transport sector that is essential in this sprawling nation — prompted only a muted response here, with Russian officials avoiding drastic measures such as closing airspace or grounding flights.

President Vladimir Putin made no public comment on the discovery of traces of explosives. Russian officials also kept mum about who they think is behind the attack, which came just days before Sunday's Kremlin-sponsored elec-

tions in Chechnya and amid official warnings that rebels might try to flex their muscle in a bid to discredit what analysts predict will be a highly managed vote.

The southbound planes took off from one of Russia's most modern airports, Domodedovo, and fell to earth within minutes of each other on Tuesday night.

In the days since the crashes, Russian officials had repeatedly emphasized that while terrorism was being considered, so were other options, including bad fuel and human error.

Service spokesman, Nikolai Zakharov, revealed that explosive experts found hexogen in the scattered remains of a Tu-154 that car-

ried 46 people.

No results from the other crash site, of a Tu-134 with 44 aboard, about 120 miles south of Moscow, have been announced.

A Web site connected with Islamic militants on Friday published a statement signed the "Islambouli Brigades" claiming responsibility for the crashes. A group with a similar name has claimed responsibility for at least one other attack.

Russian officials have repeatedly contended that the rebels who have been fighting Russian forces in Chechnya for nearly five years receive help from foreign terrorist organizations, including al-Qaida.



Russian officials say that a terrorist act downed the Tu-154 airliner seen above after explosive traces were found in the wreckage.

U.N. report: Al-Qaida finds cheap ways to fund most terror attacks

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The al-Qaida terror network spent less than \$50,000 on each of its major attacks except the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings and one of its hallmarks is using readily available items like cell phones and knives as weapons, a U.N. report says.

The report released Thursday by a new team monitoring the implementation of U.N. sanctions against al-Qaida and the Taliban detailed just how little it cost to mount terror operations.

For example, the report said

the March attacks in the Spanish capital, Madrid, in which nearly 10 simultaneous bombs exploded on four commuter trains, used mining explosives and cell phones as detonators and cost about \$10,000 to carry out.

Only the sophisticated attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, using four hijacked aircraft "required significant funding of over six figures," the report said.

The report said U.N. sanctions have only had "a limited impact."

U.N. sanctions require all U.N. member states to impose a travel ban and arms embargo against a list of those linked to the Taliban or al-Qaida, currently 317 individ-

uals and 112 groups, and to freeze any assets. Sanctions were first imposed on bin Laden's network in 1999.

The report said not a single country reported stopping an arms shipment or banning entry to a Taliban or al-Qaida member on the U.N. list.

There is evidence al-Qaida wants to acquire "the means to construct bombs that would disperse chemical, biological or radiological pollutant," the monitoring team said, "and the threat to use such a device was repeated, albeit obliquely, in a communication from the Abu Hafs Brigade, an al-Qaida offshoot, on July 1, 2004."

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder at a campaign rally earlier this year.

Jens Ammerse, 52, was convicted of bodily harm and defamation by a court in Mannheim, south of Frankfurt. He testified earlier Friday that he lunged at Schroeder at a May 18 event in the city out of anger at cuts in social programs.

From wire reports

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www.defendamerica.mil/forms/CallAction.html

More flights canceled

LONDON — British Airways, plagued by staff shortages and technical hitches all week, on Friday announced two dozen flight cancellations for the coming days, including several trans-Atlantic round trips.

British Airways said passengers scheduled to fly on Friday's canceled round-trip flights to Ab-

erdeen, Glasgow and Manchester would be accommodated on later flights. BA said it was canceling 24 flights in the coming days.

Slapping sentence

MANNHEIM — A German court sentenced an unemployed teacher to four months' probation Friday for slapping German

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Three gored in Madrid bull run

Pair of animals leap barrier around ring into spectators

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — A pair of bulls gored three people at the close of a Pamplona-style run Friday, leaping over a protective barrier at the bull ring and into a crowd of spectators, police said.

Another man suffered a severe head injury, and at least 20 other people were treated for bumps and bruises in the dangerous climax of what had been a routine dash through San Sebastian de los Reyes, a Madrid suburb.

Every summer, the town holds a weeklong festival in which daredevils run through the streets with fighting bulls weighing as much as 1,300 pounds, much like the famed San Fermin festival in the northern city of Pamplona. The mad dash ends in the bull ring.

On Friday, the six bulls rumbled into the bull ring on schedule, but resisted stick-wielding handlers trying to guide them into stables.

Two of the bulls suddenly jumped over a 5-foot wall at the edge of the ring, charging at random and triggering utter chaos.

Three people were gored in the legs or buttocks, but their injuries were not serious, police said.

Some in the crowd of spectators hurled themselves head-first back over the wall and into the ring.

"People behind the barrier think they are safe," un-likely spokesman Felix Agui said. "And it is even more unlikely for two bulls to jump over it."



Runners lead a pack of fighting bulls Friday through the Madrid suburb of San Sebastian de los Reyes in Spain. Two bulls gored three people at the close of the Pamplona-style run, leaping over a barrier at the bull ring and into a crowd of spectators.

Bosnia bridge stolen

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — In what could qualify for Ripley's Believe It or Not, seven thieves stole an entire 13-yard bridge near the southern Bosnian town of Mostar, police said Friday.

Over several days, the group dismantled the metal bridge built during the Austro-Hungarian empire 150 years ago, transported the parts to a local junk yard and sold them, a police statement said.

While it all happened in a remote mountainous region, local villagers saw the thieves loading parts of the bridge into vans and alerted police last Friday. The seven men were arrested and are being held pending a decision by a prosecutor.

Without disclosing their names, police said the Gypsies, or Roma, sold the metal parts for 280 Konvertible Marks (US \$170).

Turkey factory collapse

ISTANBUL, Turkey — A factory being built in central Turkey collapsed Friday, killing four workers and injuring another, the Anatolia news agency reported.

Rescuers pulled out five workers trapped under the rubble following the collapse of the building site in the central Anatolian city of Eskisehir, but only one survived, Anatolia said.

The worker was being treated at a local hospital. There was no word on his condition.

Authorities suspect a problem with a crane and other construction mistakes likely contributed to the collapse, Anatolia reported.

From The Associated Press

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IN THE STATES

President signs order to reform intel community

BY KATHERINE PFLEGER
SHRADER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Amid a heated election-year debate on intelligence reform, President Bush signed executive orders Friday strengthening the powers of the CIA director and establishing a new national counterterrorism center.

The moves will "improve our ability to find, track and stop terrorists," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said.

One executive order gives the CIA director additional authority on an interim basis to perform many of the functions of a proposed national intelligence director who would oversee all 15 of the nation's intelligence agencies. Bush also will work with Congress to create the position of national intelligence director, McClellan said.

Congress and members of the intelligence community are divided over creation of the new position, which would upset the current bureaucracy and balance of power among the spy agencies.

"[The moves will] improve our ability to find, track and stop terrorists."

Scott McClellan

White House press secretary

McClellan said the White House would work with Congress to make sure that the proposed national intelligence director has enough authority over spending and hiring and firing "so they can do the job and do it effectively." The independent commission that investigated the Sept. 11 attacks had proposed giving the new director strong powers in both areas.

Another executive order establishes the National Counter-Terrorism Center, while a third order sets guidelines for the sharing of intelligence among agencies. McClellan said the order would establish "some common standards and clear accountability measures."

"The president is committed to doing everything in his power to make sure that we are protecting the American people," his chief spokesman said.

A congressional official said the

White House has asked for the quick feedback with the hopes of making an announcement before the start of the Republican National Convention on Monday, perhaps before the end of this week.

Debate over how to reshape the intelligence community picked up steam following the release of the Sept. 11 commission's 567-page report, which detailed events surrounding the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and made more than 40 recommendations to reform the government.

Relevant congressional committees have been working through the August recess to draft legislation to implement intelligence reforms. Even with the president's actions, Congress is expected to continue its work on legislation to overhaul U.S. intelligence.

AP White House correspondent Terence Hunt contributed to this report.



President Bush goes into the crowd to greet supporters following a campaign rally at Ricketts Park on Thursday in Farmington, N.H. A recent Los Angeles poll has Bush slightly ahead of Sen. John Kerry in three hot Midwestern states.

Poll: Bush overtakes Kerry in three states

BY RONALD BROWNSTEIN

KATHLEEN HENNESSEY

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — President Bush has moved past Sen. John F. Kerry in three hotly contested Midwestern states, despite continued doubts about the country's direction and the administration's policy choices, new Los Angeles Times polls have found.

Bush has opened small leads — all within the surveys' margin of error — in Ohio, Wisconsin, and Missouri. The states, with a combined 41 electoral votes, are among those each side views as critical to the outcome of the presidential race.

In Missouri, Bush leads among registered voters, 46 percent to 44 percent; in Wisconsin, he leads 48 percent to 44 percent; in Ohio, the president holds a 49 percent to 44 percent advantage, the surveys found.

Like a nationwide Times poll released Wednesday that showed Bush ahead, 49 percent to 46 percent, the state surveys under-score Kerry's difficulty at converting a general desire for change

into support for his candidacy. Kerry trails in the three states even though a majority of voters in each say the country is not better off because of Bush's policies and "needs to move in a new direction."

Bush draws support from virtually all voters who support his policy direction; by contrast, Kerry attracts about four-fifths or less of voters who want a new course. Barb Chiamler, a special education teacher from Florence, Wis., who responded to the poll, said she remains torn between disappointment in Bush and uncertainty about Kerry.

"It seems like we're kind of at a dead end," she said of Bush's presidency. "But I just feel I don't know Kerry's philosophy as well as I should. I still don't really feel like he's come up with any definite plan for what he would do and how he would change things."

The Times Poll, supervised by polling director Susan Pinkus, contacted 507 registered voters in Ohio, 580 in Missouri, and 512 in Wisconsin, from Aug. 21 through 24. It has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus four percentage points for each state.

Census: Poverty level up

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats took aim at President Bush's economic record after release of a Census Bureau report showing the ranks of the uninsured and the impoverished grew in 2003 for the third consecutive year while incomes stayed level.

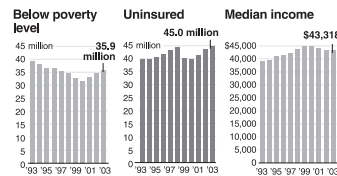
The president's surrogates came to his defense, noting that the numbers failed to reflect more recent economic gains, such as the addition of 1.5 million jobs over the past 12 months, or the full effect of the Bush-backed tax cuts.

But with jobs and health care key issues in a tight presidential race, Democratic challenger John Kerry said the data was evidence that the incumbent's economic policies had failed poor and middle-class Americans.

The reports released Thursday provide a snapshot of Americans' economic well-being in 2003, two full years after the end of the recession. In 2003, job growth was slow until the second half of the year while wages overall were

Ranks of Americans in poverty climbs

The number of Americans living in poverty as well as those without health insurance rose last year, according to the Census Bureau.



Source: Census Bureau

stagnant. Many of those who did get jobs were faced with accepting scaled-back benefits and pension plans.

The good news is that this is what one would expect since we are still coming out of a recession," said Sheldon Danziger, co-director of the National Poverty Center at the University of Michigan.

Still, the growing number of workers who didn't get wages increasing last year likely helped boost the number of poor people in America, he added. There were 35.8 million people living in poverty last year, or 12.5 percent of the population. That was 1.3 million more than in 2002.

The government definition of poverty varies by the size of the household. For instance, the in-

come threshold for a family of four was \$18,810, while for two people it was \$12,015.

More people lacked health insurance as well — about 45 million last year, or 15.6 percent, compared with 43.5 million, or 15.2 percent the previous year.

The rate of uninsured children was relatively stable at 11.4 percent. The census report found that median household income, when adjusted for inflation, remained basically flat last year at \$43,318.

Whites, blacks and Asians saw no noticeable change, but Hispanics' income fell slightly. Bush, campaigning in Las Cruces, N.M., did not directly address the Census Bureau reports but reiterated his contention that the economy is improving because of his policies.

Social Security woes

JACKSON, Wyoming — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Friday that the United States will face "abrupt and painful" choices if Congress does not move quickly to trim the Social Security and Medicare benefits that have been promised to the baby boom generation.

Returning to a politically explosive issue that he has addressed a number of times this year, Greenspan said that it was wrong for the government to hold out the promise of more retirement benefits than it is capable of providing.

He said this issue was particularly critical given the impending retirement of 77 million baby boomers born in the two decades after World War II.

9/11 toy mistake

MIAMI — Small toys showing an airplane flying into the World Trade Center were packed inside more than 14,000 bags of candy and sent to small groceries around the country before being recalled.

Lisy Peco, the wholesaler that distributed the candy, said Friday that the toys were purchased in bulk from a Miami-based import company.

The toys came in an assortment purchased sight unseen from L&M Import in Miami and included the toys depicting the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the twin towers, whistles and other small toys, said Luis Pedron, Lisy's national sales manager.

From The Associated Press

GOP seeks unity by partially embracing dissent

BY CALVIN WOODWARD

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In a few words meant to speak volumes, U.S. Republicans have extended a welcome to party members who disagree with elements of their platform, a strongly conservative statement of beliefs that includes an endorsement of constitutional bans on abortion and gay marriage.

Party leaders working with platform delegates on both sides of the abortion issue settled on a declaration Wednesday night that Republicans "respect and accept" that party members can have deeply held differences.

This was a step up from merely recognizing the existence of dissenters, as the initial version of the 2004 platform stated. But in a process where every word is watched with a hawk's eye by party activists, the party hoped the change would settle divisions between social conservatives and moderates and deliver U.S. President Bush a unified national convention next week.

"We've worked very hard to be the open door [party] and show respect for other views," said Tennessee Senator Bill Frist, platform chairman. "It's language I'm very comfortable with."

The committee adopted the compromise in a 74-18 vote, with most of the mild opposition coming from social conservatives who saw any accommodation as a dilution of core principles. On the other hand, advocates of gay and abortion rights had wanted a much stronger statement — one that identified their issues as matters of disagreement.

Ann Stone, who leads Republicans for Choice, said the "respect and accept" solution was insufficient, but it was preferable to simply being recognized. "Three words are better than one," she said wryly.

The committee turned to less contentious parts of the platform, intending to finish its deliberations Thursday and send the document to the convention for ratification Monday, without further debate.

Earlier, a panel made up largely of conservative delegates approved language that calls for a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage and opposes legal recognition of any sort for gay civil unions, including benefits for such couples. The platform committee made no changes in that plank.

Some activists sharply criti-

cized their party for adopting a hard line in advance of a convention that will seek support from swing voters and more liberal Republicans.

"You can't craft a vicious, mean-spirited platform and then try to put lipstick on the pig by putting Rudy Giuliani and Arnold Schwarzenegger on in prime time," Christopher Barron of the Log Cabin Republicans, a gay-rights group, said in an interview.

Giuliani, the former mayor of New York, and California Gov. Schwarzenegger are among moderate Republicans according prominent convention speaking slots.

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Ramstein Base Exchange, September 3 + 4, 2004

By VERENA DOBNIK

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — AIDS activists stripped mad Thursday opposite the site of next week's Republican National Convention, demanding that President Bush make good on his promise to help HIV-positive people in the world's poorest countries.

Two clothed members of ACT

UP climbed atop a media van parked on West 33rd Street, across from Madison Square Garden, and held a sign reading "W: Drop the Debt. Stop AIDS."

Then nine others, standing in the street, removed all of their clothes; a tenth protested in her underwear.

"This is New York," Mayor Michael Bloomberg joked later. "Of course we have ... naked people on Eighth Avenue."

Police said they arrested 14 people. They were variously charged with public lewdness, disorderly conduct and reckless endangerment, and were being held for their cases to be processed.

The men and women stood in the buff for 10 minutes, locking arms and blocking West 33rd Street as they chanted, "Drop the Debt. Stop AIDS." The same slogan was stenciled in black on their bodies.

Dozens of other ACT UP members passed out leaflets to the crowd that gathered. "When it comes to fighting the AIDS crisis, Emperor Bush has no clothes," said activist Amanda Lugg.

"Countries are spending all the money they have on paying off debt when they could be spending that money on prevention of HIV," said protest organizer Eastasia Smith, 36, a Brooklyn social worker.

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Patti Quigley, foreground, and Susan Retik, who both lost their husbands during the Sept. 11 terror attacks, ride in Needham, Mass.

Two widows of 9/11 attacks try to break cycle of violence

BY DENISE LAVOIE
The Associated Press

NEEDHAM, Mass. — Amid the horror, confusion and grief that followed their husbands' deaths in the 2001 terrorist attacks, Susan Retik and Patti Quigley were inundated with kindness.

Family and friends offered love and companionship. Their husbands' employers continued to pay their salaries. Strangers sent

flowers, food and cash.

Yet through their grief, the two widows managed to react with kindness, reaching out across an ocean and to a different culture to consider the plight of widows in Afghanistan.

Retik and Quigley were struck by how women, especially widows, were marginalized by the former Taliban regime and by Afghan society in general: They had

no life insurance and often no money or property to help them carry on after their husbands' deaths.

"I thought — look at all the support we're getting," said Retik, of Needham. "What must it be like for widows in Afghanistan?"

It turned out that Quigley, who lived in neighboring Wellesley but had never met Retik until several months after their husbands were killed at the World Trade Center, had similar thoughts. The two began talking about the connection they felt with widows in Afghanistan, the same nation where their husbands' killers had trained and where war raged in the years after the attacks. Months later, they came up with a plan to raise money for them.

Earlier this year, they created Beyond the 11th, a nonprofit foundation to aid widows in areas touched by conflict, and they plan to mark the third anniversary of the attacks by riding their bikes from New York, where their husbands' lives ended, to Boston, where their final flights began.

"Instead of the cycle of violence and terrorism escalating, if we can on that day show kindness and reach out to other people, what better thing to do on September 11th?" asked Retik.

The two women plan to ride the first 220 miles of the route together, making their way through back roads of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and into Massachusetts, where they will be met by another 200 riders for the final 30 miles to Boston.

Each rider will represent one of the 202 New Englanders killed in the attacks.

For Retik, 36, and Quigley, 40, the ride is an outgrowth of their friendship, which blossomed even as they coped with a terrible loss. Both women were pregnant when their husbands perished about the planes that slammed into the twin towers.

Retik and her husband, David, already had two children, Ben, 3, and Molly, 2. She was 7½ months pregnant on Sept. 11. Two months later, she gave birth to a second daughter, Dina.

Quigley and her husband, Patrick, had a 5-year-old daughter, Rachel. A month after the attacks, she gave birth to another daughter, Leah.

The first few months after the attacks were a blur.

By February of 2002, Retik and Quigley began getting together for dinner, sharing their grief and talking to each other in a way no one else could. "There's a point where other people just don't get it," Quigley said.

Quigley came up with the idea for the bike ride. They bought bikes together in March and began their training with a 14-mile ride. Since then, they've built up to 50 miles and plan to ride about 100 miles per day by September.

The ride will begin Sept. 9 at the former site of the World Trade Center and end on Sept. 11 at a new memorial in the Boston Public Garden. They are hoping to raise \$100,000 for food, clothing, education and job training for Afghan widows and their children.

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Sororities hide tests

VA HARRISONBURG — A student worker doing a maintenance check found cabinets full of tests dating from 1951 to 1995 in two sorority residences at James Madison University, but no members will face any honor code charges.

The filing cabinets were found in a mid-July during a check of the Alpha Sigma Alpha and Zeta Tau Alpha residences, which are part of university housing. The employees found the tests in a storage room in the ASA building and in the laundry room of the ZTA house.

The files were sorted by professor and subject, and date back to 1951, ASA president Kathryn Murphy told *The Breeze*, the university's student newspaper.

The university's honor code prohibits collecting old exams, but the current provision was not in effect during the period when the tests were collected, university spokesman Fred Hiltz said Wednesday.

Grandfather sent to jail

TX LUBBOCK — A 64-year-old Lubbock man who pleaded guilty to gunning down his son-in-law in a dispute over the discipline of his granddaughter has been sentenced to 12 years in prison.

Leroy Ward entered the guilty plea, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reports in its online editions.

According to police records, Ward shot Michael Keith Jones during an argument over a spanking that Jones gave to Ward's 14-year-old granddaughter.

During the July 23, 2003, confrontation at Jones' home, Ward threatened Jones with a knife. Ward then left the home and removed a shotgun from his truck. He fired the first of two shots through the closed front door, striking Jones in the chest.

Ward then entered the home and shot Jones again, police said.

After retreating from the house, Ward turned the gun on himself as his 12-year-old grandson, who was playing in the front yard, watched.

Ward's self-inflicted gunshot wound did not kill him. He was hospitalized and taken into police custody.

Reptile finds new home

NH HUDSON — A three-foot reptile that was captured has found a new home in Plaistow.

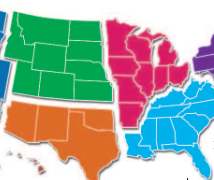
New England Reptile Distributors, or NERD, agreed to take the caiman — a member of the alligator family — and picked it up. Animal Control Officer Jana McMillan said.

Hudson police officers caught the toothy reptile, named Smiley, after a passing driver saw it trying to cross a road and called police.

"Smiley's owner, Andres Lopez, had been keeping the creature in a child's pool outside his home. Authorities told Lopez he needed a secure cage that police had inspected, and Lopez said he thought finding the gator a new home was a better solution, McMillan said.

Bear ignores the music

CO GRAND JUNCTION — Not even loud rock 'n' roll music could discourage a 350-pound bear that repeatedly



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

raided plums and watermelons from a couple's garden.

Eldon and Gerry Nihues hung a radio from the plum tree, tuned it into a rock station and turned it up loud in hopes of scaring off the bear, which helped itself to about 50 watermelons, including 11 in one night.

"It was this crazy rock stuff that was playing, but it didn't bother him," Gerry Nihues said. "He'd eat the plums right out from under where the thing was playing."

The state Division of Wildlife set out a trap, and the bear walked into it. Wildlife officers tranquilized the bear, tagged it and released it in a remote area.

Eight bears have been relocated from the area in the past three weeks, Division of Wildlife spokesman Randy Hampton said.

Man competent for trial

OR OREGON CITY — A man accused of killing two girls and hiding their bodies in his back yard was ruled mentally competent to stand trial for murder.

Ward Weaver, 41, spent four months under psychiatric evaluation.

His trial was suspended in April after the judge ruled that Weaver was severely depressed and could not cooperate in his own defense.

"We will agree that Mr. Weaver has regained his ability to aid and

assist," defense attorney Peter Fay said after Judge Robert Herndon pronounced Weaver fit to stand trial.

The disappearance of the two girls — Ashley Pond, 12, and Miranda Gaddis, 13 — in 2002 prompted a nationwide FBI hunt. The search ended a few hundred yards from the girls' front doors in Oregon City, when their bodies were found in Weaver's yard under a concrete slab and in a shed. Both girls were friends of Weaver's daughter.

Guardsman can't deploy

HI HONOLULU — A Hawaii National Guard member called to active duty must wait before finding out whether his sentencing on a home invasion robbery conviction can wait until after he completes his tour in the Middle East.

Honolulu Circuit Judge Virginia Randall scheduled a hearing to determine whether the order calling Shaun C. Rodrigues to active duty supersedes all pending motions and proceedings in his case, including sentencing.

If the call to duty is given priority, all proceedings in Rodrigues' case would be delayed until he completes his deployment, which is expected to last about a year.

Rodrigues, 24, was found guilty in March 2002 of tying up and robbing two women at gunpoint inside their Manoa home, but sentencing has been delayed by various court proceedings, including his attorney's attempt to get a new trial. He has been free on \$75,000 bail.

Meanwhile, Rodrigues' unit in the Hawaii Army National Guard was mobilized to prepare for deployment to Iraq in February.

Highway chicken spill

PA MARSHALLS CREEK — More than 1,000 live chickens fell off a truck early Thursday on their way from a Pennsylvania farm to an upstate New York processing plant.

At least 100 plastic crates of chickens fell off the tractor-trailer as it rounded a tight curve of Exit 309 off Interstate 80, heading to Marshalls Creek.

The truck left a trail of chickens, feathers and crates for three miles up Route 209 as the driver continued on his way, not knowing he'd lost part of his load. About 6,000 chickens were on the truck, an unknown number were killed.

Deadly overpass incident

MI DETROIT — A construction platform fell Friday as four workmen were painting a highway overpass, killing one worker and critically injuring the other three, police said.

The men, who worked for a company contracted by the Michigan Department of Transportation, were working on the overpass of Interstate 75 in southwest Detroit. They were attempting to lower a 20-by-30-foot platform when a cable holding it up snapped shortly after 11 a.m., police said.

The injured men were taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital. Police were not releasing their names because the families had not been notified. They were employed by Atalis Bros. Painting in Clinton Township, the transportation department said.



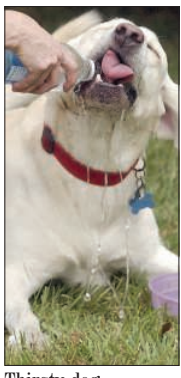
Little treasures Dalton Willett, 4 months, lies next to a 2-day-old miniature filly in Pocola, Okla. Johnny Willett placed his son next to the foal to show how small she is.



Too tired to play Northview High School sophomore Jeff Sundheimer takes a siesta on his sofa-view band members have been practicing since early August for opening night of football season.



Running of the pigs Yukon, a baby pig, leaps over a hurdle to take the lead in the All-Alaskan Pig Races event during the last day of the San Mateo County Fair in San Mateo, Calif.



Thirsty dog

Nigel, a 4-year-old yellow Labrador retriever, happily gulps water from a bottle after playing a game of run-and-retrieve with his owner, Stacy Wright, in Baton Rouge, La.



Patriotic mural

Jefferson Waller works on the details of the American flag on a mural, Walls of Patriotism, on the side of the Nascar's Plus store in Fayetteville, N.C. Waller, who has worked on the mural for over a year, paints for about four hours everyday and hopes to have this side of the building completed by the end of the year.



Strong winds

As a tow service crew prepares to lift a trailer from atop his car, Johnson County Fire District firefighter Scott Goeke steps back to watch in Spring Hill, Kan. The trailer, which is used for search and rescue training, was blown over by overnight storms that swept through the area.



Krispy Kreme debut

A selection of doughnuts are seen on display at the new Krispy Kreme doughnut shop in the Dupont Circle neighborhood of Washington. It was the grand opening of the first Krispy Kreme in the District of Columbia.



Good harvest year

Matthew Bennett is surrounded by corn stalks as he walks his field in Windsor, Ill. It has been a good summer for Matt, who grew about 3,000 acres of corn and soybeans.

UGA cheer coach fired

GA ATHENS — The University of Georgia cheerleading coach was fired after a Jewish cheerleader complained her chances of making the football squad were hurt because she didn't participate in Bible studies and pregame prayers.

Jaclyn Steele, 22, was on the football squad as a freshman but was moved to the basketball squad, a perceived demotion at the football-crazy university.

Steele complained to the university in November and coach Marilou Braswell was placed on probation. Steele was subsequently reinstated on the football squad without a tryout.

But when Braswell told the cheerleaders why Steele was reinstated, the university viewed that as retaliation for the discrimination claims, said Braswell's attorney, Marie Bruce.

Braswell was fired; her termination letter cited "discourteous and disruptive behavior." She said she would appeal.

Stolen laptops recovered

WA SEATTLE — Six laptop computers containing sensitive airport security information that were stolen last month have been recovered, the FBI said.

The laptops, taken from a motel storage room near Seattle-Tacoma Airport after being used to train airport screeners, contained information that screeners could be used by terrorists to evade detection.

But officials of the training contractor, Lockheed Martin, denied that the information in the laptops could compromise national security. Each laptop and all the screener training files were password-protected, officials said.

The person who had obtained the computers and contacted authorities said he realized they had been stolen after reading newspaper reports, FBI agent Roberta Burroughs said. The person is not believed to be involved, she said.

Man acquitted of murder

IL ROLLING MEADOWS — A 28-year-old man accused of decapitating his mother and displaying her head on the front porch of his home because he believed she was Satan was acquitted of murder by reason of insanity.

Judge John Scollito ruled that Karl Snieder of Palatine suffered from mental illness and "lacked substantial capacity to appreciate the criminality" of killing his 49-year-old mother, Kathryn Snieder.

During four days of testimony, four doctors said Snieder was schizophrenic and suffered from delusions and hallucinations.

According to court testimony, Snieder told police he was Jesus Christ, his mother was Satan and that her death in January 2003 signaled the triumph of good over evil.

According to police and prosecutors, the two got into a fight after she told him he should be committed to a mental hospital. He then stabbed her, cut off her head and put it on the front porch.

Scollito ordered Snieder to be evaluated by mental health experts within 30 days. The judge will then determine the number of years and what type of men-

tal-health supervision Snieder will receive. He will remain in Cook County jail until then.

Court reinstates award

MO ST. LOUIS — A Missouri appeals court reinstated a jury's \$8.5 million award to the family of a boy paralyzed in a car seat.

The ruling by the three-judge panel reversed a St. Louis judge's 2002 decision to order a retrial, at the request of car-seat maker Evenflo Co., on claims that punitive damages were wrongly awarded.

Jurors awarded the damages to Damon Steele, whose son Denver John "D.J." Steele, then 2, was injured while riding in an Evenflo car seat during the one-vehicle crash in 1996.

An Evenflo attorney, John Murphy, said further appeals were planned to the full appellate court, then to the Missouri Supreme Court, if necessary.

"I have a problem with a court of appeals decision that reverses a trial court when the trial court says he was concerned whether justice was done," Murphy said.

Ohio-based Evenflo argued that the car's driver, Damon Steele's ex-girlfriend, failed to put D.J. in the car seat properly, and that even if she had, the child would have been injured by the crash's severity.

Cab driver dies of burns

NV LAS VEGAS — A cab driver, or set on fire, during a robbery attempt died, three days after being burned over more than 70 percent of his body.

Pauroj Chitrasart, 51, had been in critical condition and on a ventilator since the attack. James Scholl, 33, will be charged with murder, police said. He was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder after he was overheard bragging about the attack, police said.

Ballpark employee fired

NJ ATLANTIC CITY — The public address announcer for minor league baseball's Atlantic City Surf was fired and the scoreboard operator resigned after poking fun at Gov. James E. McGreevey's sexual orientation.

Announcer Greg Maiuro dedicated a between-innings rendition of the song "YMCA" to McGreevey during a game, less than a week after New Jersey's governor announced that he had had an extramarital affair with a man and would resign.

The following night, scoreboard operator Marco Cerino posted the message "Sponsored by Gov. Jim McGreevey" on the scoreboard when the song played. Cerino resigned over the incident, the team said.

State teacher shortage

HI HONOLULU — The state was short 357 teachers when public schools started this week, so the Department of Education plans to continue hiring during the school year.

The department also is likely to bring in substitutes to make up the difference.

"It's not ideal, but it's not unusual when you're dealing with the tight labor market for teachers in recent years," said Greg Knudsen, spokesman for the department.

Stories and photos from wire services.



John Carter Cash holds up his grandmother Maybelle Carter's Gibson L-5 guitar during a celebration for the historic guitar at the Country Music Hall of Fame Museum in Nashville, Tenn., on Monday.

Historic guitar back on display

Mother Maybelle's instrument returns to Country Hall of Fame

BY JOHN GEROME
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A guitar once owned by "Mother Maybelle" Carter, a member of one of country music's most influential families, has been acquired by the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

The Gibson L-5 acoustic guitar, which has been on loan to the museum since 1998 but was reclaimed by the owner in May and listed for sale at \$575,000.

Philanthropist Bob McLean donated \$1 million to the Hall of Fame to purchase the guitar, saying historic instruments such as Carter's guitar belong in the museum.

"Not because they're fancy, expensive instruments but because the world was changed by the music created with them," he said.

Carter bought the guitar, then a top-of-the-line model, for \$275 in 1928 and played it until her death in 1978. She used it on most of her recordings and to pioneer a playing style in which she picked the melody on the lower strings while strumming chords on the higher ones. The technique, called the "Carter Scratch," has been widely imitated.

"Mother Maybelle" Carter is really the person who introduced the guitar as a lead instrument in country music," said Hall of Fame Director Kyle Young. "She belongs to a small group of blues, country and other roots musicians whose playing style and instrumentation provided a foundation for nearly every genre of popular music."

McLean, an amateur musician who described himself as a "behind the curtain-type guy," was coaxed onto the stage at the Hall of Fame for Monday's announcement of the acquisition. He picked a bit of the Carter Family classic "Wildwood Flower" on Maybelle's guitar with Vince Gill and Marty Stuart.

Banjo great Earl Scruggs, his son Randy Scruggs, the Whites and Carter family descendants John Carter Cash and Carlene Carter performed other Carter Family songs.

Gill said his father taught him to play "Wildwood Flower," the first song he ever learned on the guitar.

"I don't think anything we've ever done can touch this," said Gill, president of the Country Music Foundation Board. "This is the single most important piece of my history, probably that we will ever have."

The original Carter Family — Maybelle, Alvin Pleasant "A.P." Carter and his wife, Sara — popularized numerous songs they brought from the Virginia hills.

After the original Carter trio split up in 1943, Maybelle and her daughters — Helen, June and Anita — performed as the Carter Family. June went on to marry country legend Johnny Cash. Both died last year.

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://my.afn.dodmedia.com/sd/>

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2004					
(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00 Pokemon-Johto	Trading Spaces	Nightline	NASCAR Racing	The View	Trading Spaces
9:30 Kenny the Shark (E)	The Best Of	Army Newswatch	Busch Series - Food City 250, from Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tenn. (Taped)	What Not to Wear "Gina" Refining a look.	The Best Of
10:00 Lizzy McAlpine	Entertainment Tonight	Hardball With Chris Matthews			Entertainment Tonight
10:30 Scooby's Safari (E)		Headline NBC			Headline News
11:00 Focus on the Force	Headline News				ESPN News
11:30 The Best Of	ESPN News				My Wife and Kids
12:00 Entertainment Tonight	My Wife and Kids	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	Everwood "Your Future Awaits"	My Wife and Kids
12:30 R.R. & H.H.					R.R. & H.H.
13:00 WWE Raw	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	CNN Saturday Morning	College GameDay	Everwood "The Day is Done"	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"
13:30					
14:00 My Wife and Kids	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Music"	20/20	NFL Live	Strong Medicine "Orders"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Music"
14:30 Hair & Hair					
15:00 CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	Today	ESPN Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	CSI Music Festival: Country Music's Biggest Party	Headline News
16:00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Music"	Saturday Night Live				Saturday Night Live
16:30					
17:00 Headline News	Kickin' It Latest in music and trends.	Wall Street Journal America's Black Firm		The View	Kickin' It Latest in music and trends.
17:30 Corps News					
18:00 XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	News from CNN	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece.	What Not to Wear "Gina" Refining a look.	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.
19:00					
19:30					
20:00					
20:30					
21:00					
22:00					
22:30					
23:00					
23:30					
SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2004					
00:00 ESPN News	Headline News	Headline News	(T)100 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	CSI Music Festival: Country-Party	Headline News
00:30 Saturday Night Live	Army Newswatch	McLaughlin Group (N)		Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch
1:00	Word in the World	The Capital Gang	NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series	Kingsey's Meadow	Word in the World
1:30	Cafe Video				Cafe Video
2:00	XXVIII Summer Olympics	Washington Week	Sharpshooters From Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tenn. (Taped)	Harvest: Greg Laurie	XXVIII Summer Olympics
2:30					
3:00					
3:30					
4:00					
4:30					
5:00					
5:30					
6:00	Headline News	Headline News	Little League World Series Championship Teams TBA, from Williamsport, Pa. (Taped)	MPA'SH	Headline News
6:30	XXVIII Summer Olympics	XXVIII Summer Olympics		My Tyler Moore	XXVIII Summer Olympics
7:00				All in the Family	
7:30					
8:00	Bear in House	MotorWeek	The Bellway Boys	SportsCenter	MotorWeek
8:30	Reading Rainbow (E)	Ever-Moves	Fox News Watch		Ever-Moves
9:00	Movie • "North" (1994, Comedy/Candace) Elijah Wood, Bruce Willis	WWE SmackDown!	Headline News	NFL Football (teams to be announced, live)	WWE SmackDown!
9:30	Stargate SG-1 "Enemy Mine"		Chris Matthews Show	Music World	Stargate SG-1 "Enemy Mine"
10:00	SpongeBob	Headline News	Corps News	Real Videos	SpongeBob
10:30	Destinations	Big Story Weekend Edition		King of the Hill	Destinations
11:00	Ebert & Roeper	ESPN News		The Bernie Mac Show	Ebert & Roeper
11:30	Headline News	7th Heaven "High and Dry"	CNN Presents	Everybody-Ramond	Headline News
12:00	Army Newswatch				
12:30	WWE SmackDown!	Movie • "1st to Die" (2003, Suspense) Athens, Greece. Boxing final, gymnastics final, rhythmic individual; handball final, men's; track and field, men's; marathon; water polo final, men's.	Fox and Friends	College Football Teams to Be Announced	Movie • "1st to Die" (2003, Suspense)
13:00	Stargate SG-1 "Enemy Mine"				
13:30					
14:00					
14:30					
15:00	Headline News	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	Fox and Friends	College Football Teams to Be Announced	Headline News
15:30	ESPN News	Seinfeld			Seinfeld
16:00	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Boxing final, gymnastics final, rhythmic individual; handball final, men's; track and field, men's; marathon; water polo final, men's.	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	Headline News	Kingsey's Meadow	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Boxing final, gymnastics final, rhythmic individual; handball final, men's; track and field, men's; marathon; water polo final, men's.
16:30					
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30					
19:00					
19:30					
20:00	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.	NFL Yearbook	NFL Yearbook	XXVIII Summer Olympics from Athens, Greece. Basketball final, men's; canoeing final, men's; wrestling, freestyle.
20:30					
21:00					
21:30					
22:00					
22:30					
23:00					
23:30					

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FACES 'N' PLACES

'Apprentice' runner-up strikes land deal

Kwame Jackson is starting to look less like an 'Apprentice' and more like Donald Trump.

The runner-up in the first season of the NBC reality show "The Apprentice" has completed a multimillion dollar real-estate deal of his own. With two other partners, Jackson has made a deal with officials in Prince George's County in Maryland to develop 550 acres into commercial and residential property.

The deal is worth \$3.8 billion and will provide over 32,000 jobs, Jackson said.

"For me, 'The Apprentice' was the beginning," he said. "It's not a ceiling, it's a floor."

In developing one of the nation's more affluent black counties, "We believe in being catalysts in what we call the second generation of the civil rights movement," Jackson said.

His company, Legacy Development Partners, plans production of an executive menswear line and a network TV show.

Niagara Falls jumper reaps benefits

The only person known to have survived an unprotected plunge over Niagara Falls has returned to the scene of his stunt.

Kirk Jones, 40, went over the 167-foot Horse Shoe Falls on Oct. 20, 2003.

Earlier this month, the native of the Detroit suburb of Canton Township took a bus to the New York side of the falls. The owner of the Falls Side Cafe & Souvenirs shop, Louie Antonec, hired him to sit at the store's entrance and tell his story.

At the time of the plunge, Jones recently had lost his sales job when his parents shut down the family business, which made measuring tools for auto parts manufacturers.

Jones said he was depressed but denied it was a suicide attempt.

A Canadian court fined him and barred him from the country for one year.

He said the court's punishment was a small penalty for what followed. Jones met boyfriend idol Alice Cooper, talked with ABC's Diane Sawyer and signed a \$100,000 contract to join a circus. A few days after the plunge, circus promoter Phil Dolci offered him \$100,000 to hit the road and tell his story.

Goldberg returning to her acting roots

Whoopi Goldberg is returning to Broadway in the show that jump-started her career 20 years ago.

Goldberg opens Nov. 17 at New York's Lyceum Theatre, the same house where her one-woman show premiered in October 1984, it was announced. The original show ran for 156 performances.

Since then, the actress-comedian has appeared on Broadway in the revivals of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" and "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom."

She won a supporting actress Oscar in 1991 for "Ghost." Her movies also include "The Color Purple" and the "Sister Act" films.

Slovak town hopes to be 'Warhol city'

An eastern Slovak town that houses the Warhol Family Museum of Modern Art plans to use a European Union grant to help change its image and become "Warhol city."

Medzilaborce, a town of 6,500, has received a \$54,625 grant for tourism development, town hall official Adrian Kalinak said.

"The purpose of this project is to start to change the look of the town to symbolize pop art and Andy Warhol," Kalinak said.

He said the money will be used to renovate facades of nine houses in the town's center and decorate four bus stops in the style made famous by Warhol, whose parents grew up in the nearby village of Mikova before marrying and emigrating to the United States.

Although Warhol, who died in 1987, never visited the land of his parents, some 10,000 visitors a year come to the museum to see his works and memorabilia.

From The Associated Press



Jackson



Jones

Goldberg

This Fox ages gracefully

Actress enters new chapter in life with TV cable series

BY JANICE RHOSHALL LITTLEJOHN

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It's not every day you'll hear a Hollywood actress bragging about turning 40 the way Vivica A. Fox is doing.

Of course she can boast about aging because she doesn't show it, not even on this day, when she had taken a red-eye flight from Toronto and spent much of the morning promoting her new Lifetime series "Missing."

She's bright-eyed, smiling and talking a mile-a-minute about everything from the single life and the "little young fellas" who keep "checking" her out to going shopping for frilly, pretty things — like the strapless, pink A-line and matching feathery flip flops she's wearing.

"Guu! I'm excited about 40. I ain't wet behind the ears no more!" she says, laughing.

"I'm a woman and I'm cool with me, and if everybody don't like me, that's OK because I ain't going to like everybody anyway, and I'm cool with that, too."

Yet it appears television audiences like Fox just fine in the newly retitled "Missing," which premiered last season as "1-800-MISSING" with Catherine Scorsone and Gloria Ruben, who has left the show.

Since last month's season debut, "Missing" has climbed to No. 1 in its time period (10 p.m. Saturdays in the States) with women ages 18 to 49, according to Lifetime, which just ordered five additional episodes of the series.

After a string of ill-fated shows, Fox now has a chance for a more lucrative series run playing FBI special agent Nicole Scott, a frank, off-the-cuff investigator partnered with straight-arrow agent and psychic Jess Mastriani (Scorsone).

Making "Missing" is like "doing a mini-movie every week," Fox says. "I'm doing drama, with a little bit of humor added, and I'm very happy. I like being here."

Series creator Debra Martin Chase seems just as pleased with the casting.

"Vivica's that great combination: She looks amazing, she's smart, women love her, men love her," Chase said. "We were able to take advantage of that and create a character that is vulnerable, who is genteel but tough and is not afraid to kick some butt, who breaks the rules but who has her own code of honor."

Having finished "Kill Bill: Vol. 1 & 2," "Ella Enchanted," and a series of urban romantic comedies, the woman who catapulted her movie career with an out-of-this-world kiss with Will Smith in "Independence Day" wasn't interested in returning to television.

But Lifetime had other ideas.

"Vivica's was the first name we went to when Gloria talked about wanting to leave," says Lifetime programming vice president Kelly Goode, "and Debra was just dogged about going after her."

After three months of relentless pursuit, Fox finally got an offer she couldn't refuse: co-executive producing credits on "Missing" and a film production deal with Lions Gate Entertainment, which produces the series

in Toronto.

"I feel like I've achieved another level in a business that's not kind to African-American actresses," says Fox.

But juggling her roles as producer and star hasn't been easy.

"There's days when I gotta get down on my knees and do positive prayers, especially when I first started the show," she says.

"There were always so many questions and ways I'm being split that I have to stay positive to keep my strength, to keep my serenity."

She's needed that a lot lately, after her divorce to singer Sixx-Nine (Christopher Harvest) in 2002 and the abrupt end of her romance with rapper 50 Cent, who began insinuating after the break-up that Fox was "crazy" and using him to get her face on magazine covers.

Fox waited until the BET Awards in May before publicly responding to 50 Cent's comments.

"I spoke out because I needed closure," she said. "I needed to remind everybody, I've been doing this for a long time. I'm not new to the game. I'm true to the game."

Mulling it over now, she says "the mistake that me and 50 made was that we went public too fast. We just got too excited about each other. It was just exciting!"

She added: "I didn't speak about the break-up when it happened, and he was going so public, which was completely disappointing. ... I really don't know what I did that made us break up. It was sad, because I really cared for him, but I still wish him well. But I will never publicly put down a black man. I just can't."

Moving ahead, Fox will soon be back on the big screen with Eddie Griffin in the action thriller "Blast," and is awaiting distribution on several projects, including one of four "Beauty Shop" features.

In the meantime, she's looking to finance her "passion project," "Vertical," an independent film that she will produce and star in.

"It's kind of like Vivica's 'Training Day,'" she explains. "I play a very dark character that's very charming, which fun is fun."

Taking a moment, she sighs and smiles. "You know, I just feel at peace with Vivica right now," she says. "A new chapter is getting ready to happen in my life. I'm just thankful and not taking anything for granted and enjoying my life."

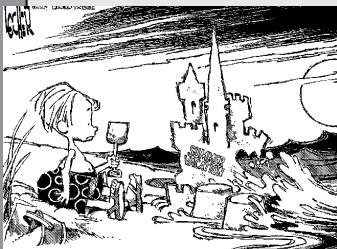
Vivica A. Fox, who says she is excited about just turning 40 years old, is looking ahead to the future, working on the Lifetime cable series "Missing" and film projects.

ARACIA PRESS/KRT



Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



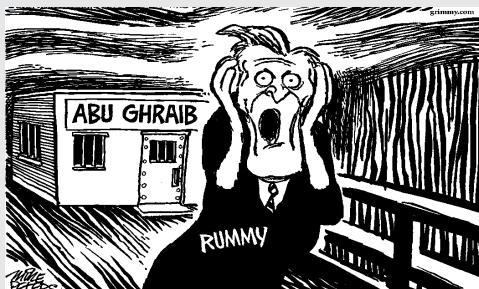
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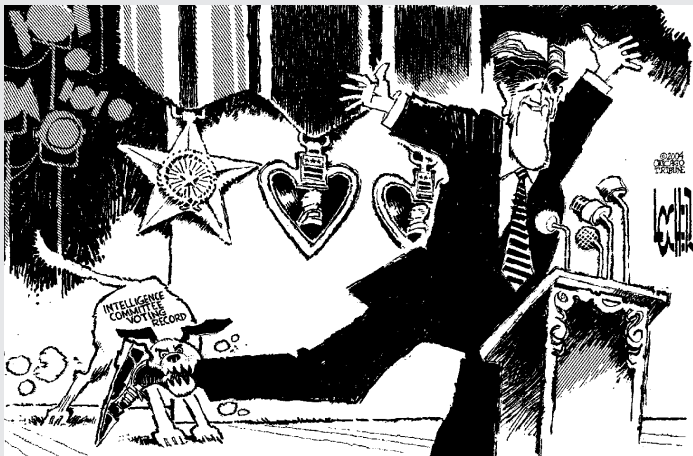


BILL DEORE/Universal Press Syndicate



THE BLAME

MIKE PETERS/King Features Syndicate



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Horoscope

We're headed toward the full moon in Pisces, but for now, the eccentricity of Aquarius is featured — you'll see characters out wherever you go, and they're not shy about showing the world why they're so different. In other words, it's a day to let your freak flag fly. If you're honest, some things you do might be considered strange.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (August 28). You spend plenty of time in creative, luxurious and interesting environments this year, which causes you to realize that you deserve a life filled with beauty. Young people help you out in October. You'll make money with your artistry through December. Traveling inspires you in the winter. You're particularly suited to romance with a Leo or Pisces.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are as magnificent as the purpose you choose. Think about your focus and how you might fine-tune it to represent what you'd like to create in this life. Innovation is needed in your love life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's better to be direct than diplomatic now. Confrontation brings about healthy change. Nothing is as big or as scary as it seems. Lies lose their power when the truth is spoken. Financial opportunities will unfold tonight.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A touch of obsession isn't a bad thing. It shows that you're driven enough to make it no matter what or whom you're up against. Tonight, you'll have to release something in the name of progress — a very mature move.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If operating in a group, you cover solid ground by sticking to the plan. Into the hours after noon, you're more susceptible to influence. You could be romanced into something you once opposed. At least you have an open mind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Feel free — you are. Those who know you well also know that you're at your best when you can't feel the

boundaries locking you in. Reinforce great behavior from loved ones, and you'll get more in the days to come.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you don't choose adventure, you're choosing a humdrum day. Go against your need for convenience, and do something unreasonable and just plain fun. When you're playful, you attract all kinds of luck.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The closest of kin sometimes seem to be the furthest from knowing the real you. Remedy the situation now. Being completely comfortable in relationships makes you feel that all is well in the world. Laughter forms a lasting tie.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's no need for force events into your preconceived notion of what they should be. When you relax, what happens naturally is inspired and sometimes hilarious. Even tedious work is fun if you have the right attitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). New people are featured, and you make a superb first impression. You can expect to receive follow-up phone calls from folks who spot you as someone to get to know. Family members have requests — say yes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People around you admire how cool you are under every circumstance. It wasn't always so. You can relate to someone who's taking the situation way too seriously — he or she reminds you of yourself in the past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sharing your extensive knowledge of a certain subject will help you establish a place with those you admire. Don't be surprised if you're included in exciting plans for future enterprises.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You won't regret listening to your inner voice, though it seems to make no sense in the moment. If someone owes you money, try collecting it! You're mighty persuasive now and will get most of the results you try for.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



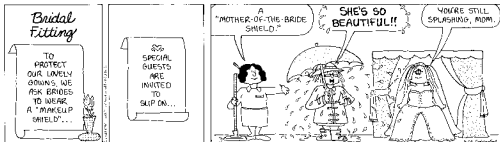
Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



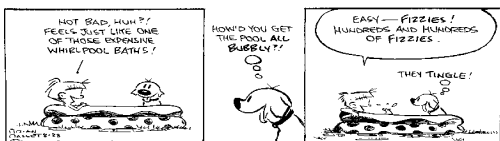
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



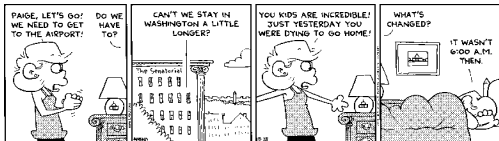
Better or Worse



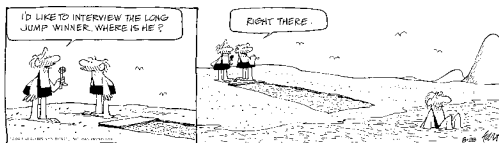
Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



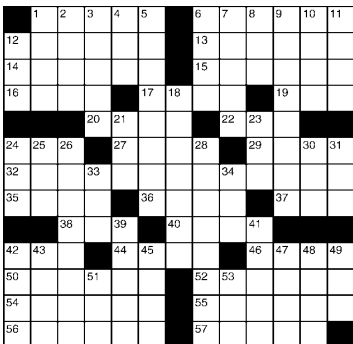
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 "West Side Story" role
- 6 Here and there
- 12 Paper airplane, e.g.
- 13 Big lizard
- 14 Block
- 15 Extends a finger
- 16 Houston acronym
- 17 Mideast gulf
- 19 "Mayday!"
- 20 "Time" publisher
- 22 Chatter away
- 24 Ernesto Guevara
- 27 Colonial sewer
- 29 Cheese-tray choice
- 32 Bushnell-based TV series
- 35 Mischievous group
- 36 Green acres
- 37 Menlo Park monogram
- 38 Approves
- 40 Finished
- 42 Reply (Abbr.)
- 44 Post Angelou
- 46 Ford or Lincoln
- 50 Slatted aperture
- 52 Muckety
- 54 Cow catcher
- 55 Political fier
- 56 Cutting implement
- 57 Tools for duels
- 2 Pinches
- 3 Beyond improvement
- 4 Caroline's uncle
- 5 Three digits after 1
- 6 Magritte subject
- 7 Great distress
- 8 ———— genres
- 9 Classical language of India
- 10 Grooving on
- 11 Aggregate
- 12 Rickey ingredient
- 18 Undo
- 21 Spigotted vessel
- 23 Jennings' employer
- 24 Helgenberger drama
- 25 Height of fashion?
- 26 PR concern
- 28 Noisy mock serenade
- 30 Call-day link
- 31 Storm center
- 33 Send out invitations
- 34 Away from WSW
- 39 Slander
- 41 Cordage fiber
- 42 Shakespeare title start
- 43 Ham's father
- 45 700s, in the Dewey Decimal system
- 47 Incite
- 48 Rocky peaks
- 49 Adorer's writup
- 51 Through the volume
- 53 Pump up the

Answer to Previous Puzzle



Down

- 1 Matter precursor

8-28

CRYPTOQUIP

UFWACFVHCQA TUQOX AOOE
 QT MO XTQ EDPC ETNO
 QCWX PWOA UTN CTFIVXH

IOWI MWQQONVOA
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I AM TOTALLY OVER MY PREVIOUS GIRLFRIEND. SHE'S DEFINITELY A FLING OF THE PAST.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals S

Tell police about stalker problem

Dear Abby: I am 19 and pregnant with my first child. The father, whom I married, turned out to be far different from the person I thought he was when I met him. I left him when I was around four months along because he was starving me and wouldn't let me leave the house.

Since then, he has been arrested for possession of child pornography, and I have discovered that he is a satanist. I am terrified of him. I know I'm lucky to be alive and not to have lost the baby, which I almost did.

I am filing for divorce, but I have no idea how to keep this monster away from my baby. He has threatened to kill me and take the baby if I don't go back to him. He follows me around and sits outside my home at night. I have applied for a lawyer, but I have no job and no money.

Are there any organizations that can help someone in my position? How do I get my husband to quit threatening me and leave me alone?

Scared in Texas

Dear Abby: The first thing you should do is file a police report stating, for the record, that you are being stalked and threatened. Since your husband has already been arrested for child pornography, it could be only a matter of time until he is convicted and sent away. In the meantime, call the Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233. If necessary, the people there can help you find shelter to keep you and your baby safe.



Dear Abby: An outside vendor came to the place where I worked and made low comments to me.

When I learned that he would

be the person training me on the new software I'd be using for the promotion I had just received — my second promotion in two years — I reported the incident to my immediate supervisor. Within four working days, I was demoted, publicly humiliated, and felt forced to turn in my resignation.

I had signed a sexual harassment agreement with my bosses that I would report any incident to them. Should I have kept my mouth shut? Do I have any recourse?

— Humiliated in Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Humiliated: The vendor's actions were out of line, and if you were right to report him. If I were you, I'd discuss what happened with an attorney who specializes in labor law — preferably a female.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DYADD

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ADGRU

VANGER

NEPPIS

Answer:

Yesterday's

Jumbles: BOGUS MOTIF FRENZY BUREAU

Answer: What the jockey enjoyed — SURF AND TURF

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A " " (Answers Monday)

Drugs can quietly wreck a life

Dear Annie: Our wonderful, 30-year-old son died by suicide four months ago. He was a born-again Christian and a married man, smart, handsome, caring and liked by all. He offered his arm to senior citizens at church. He loved his family. What led him to suicide? In college, he was lured into trying drugs. Being young and invincible, he tried them "just once" and found he could not put them down. A decision that took a split second to make destroyed his life.

Annie's Mailbox



If you see something that is even mildly worrisome, address the issue.

Help them develop wholesome, healthy interests. Don't be eager to send them away to college. Let them mature close to home for the first year or two. I don't know that there is anything we could have done differently to avoid this tragedy. Our hearts are forever broken. Help me keep this from destroying other families.

— Michael's Proud Mom

Dear Michael's Mom: We ache for your loss. Parenting is one of the most difficult jobs on earth. Parents can do everything right, but children still grow up and make their own choices. We do the best we can with the tools we have. Thank you for caring enough to share your story.

Dear Annie: I had to laugh at your answer to the reader who has a pet rat. When my daughter was 4 years old, she brought a

rat home for the weekend from preschool. We were horrified at that big, fat, ugly thing with the long tail, but soon we realized that it was gentle, ate demurely, didn't run away and was kind of cute.

We then allowed the kids to raise a baby rat, which had the run of their room. It never made a mess because it liked its cage so much.

When the kids came home from school, it came lunging toward them like a puppy.

Any pet can be therapeutic. Of course, always wash your hands after handling, and make sure it has a clean bed, food and fresh water.

— Like Rats in Orange, Calif.

Dear Like Rats: We heard from plenty of rat aficionados, and we will concede that they might make good pets, but we'll pass, thank you.

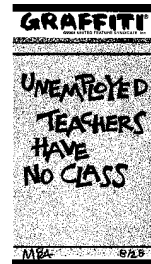
Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox.comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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Family Circus



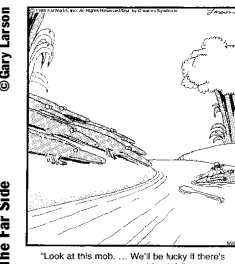
"How come they never have doggy-paddle races?"



Domnis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequitur



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Jobs Offered 630	Religious Activities 871	Religious Activities 871	Jobs Offered 630	Religious Activities 871	Jobs Offered 630
<p>SOLO SEEKS SECRETARY</p> <p>Law Offices David Court needs an office manager/secretary/typist beginning 4 October 2004. Mr. Court specializes in representing service members in court-martial. RE:conf. should be sent to Kaiserstrasse 35, 69299 Frankfurt, Germany. Please call (069) 30 19 72 to arrange for an interview.</p> <p>Panasonic Military Sales</p> <p>Is now recruiting for the store sales representative position in the following states: Würzburg and Stuttgart. Applying individuals must be in the possession of a Military or Military supporting ID Card. If interested</p> <p>Call 09843-95638, fax 09843-95639 Or e-mail depanasonicmil@t-online.de</p> <p>Please state the location in which you are interested.</p>	<p>FATH MINISTRIES Int A Church for all People Began in 1981 - St. Helmsbach Bamberg For info call Peggy MacQueen 0170-3216704, 0160-8054240 www.fath-ministries-bamberg.com</p> <p>Standard Issue Meets A New Standard</p> <p>estripes.osd.mil</p> <p>STARS & STRIPES Your Homeland Newspaper</p>	<p>We Invite You to Visit the Bible Baptist Church In your area. We are old fashioned, Fundamental, Independent, PCV.</p> <p>For information call: March 01-500-5130 www.godlies.com/ 01-500-5130 Darmstadt/Heim-Main 0615-5130 www.biblebaptist-darmstadt.de Würzburg-Kitzingen 0931-42004 baptist@t-online.de 0711-680785 baptist-stuttgart.de</p>	<p>Assessment Administrators</p> <p>Temporary Job Opportunities</p> <p>The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a congressionally mandated elementary and secondary education research study is looking for people who enjoy working in schools, are detail oriented, can work in a team, have good communication skills, and have some education or research experience.</p> <p>This job features assignments in Japan, Okinawa, Korea, UK, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Spain. Assignments begin in January 2005 through March 2005 and offer competitive rates. Candidates must complete an FBI background security check.</p> <p>Please call Pat Heber in the USA at toll-number (888) 264-6793 for more information or email your resume to Mer@ibncso2@t-online.de or Mer@ibncso2@t-online.de For more information on Westat, visit www.westat.com EOE</p>	<p>European Baptist Convention English Language Churches gathered with the 10th triennial meeting in Europe, 2004, 10-15 October, For 60 EBC churches in Europe, www.ebc-europe.com</p> <p>In BAUMHOLZ: Trinity Baptist Church Kaiser Str. 13 82774 Baumhölzer Pastor Jeffrey Bryan Home Tel: 06384-514804</p> <p>In SPANGDALE: Trinity Baptist Church Schul Str. 19 54624 Metternich Pastor Jeffrey Bryan CH Tel: 05665-5330 Int. Tel: 05665-5394 Pastor Jim Wootton</p> <p>In HEIDELBERG: Grace Int'l Baptist Church Lustbuckert 9 69181 Leimen Tel: 06224-51516 Fax: 06224-146033 www.grace-intl.org Pastor Richard Blake</p> <p>In KAISERSLAUTERN: Faith Baptist Church Leichenhauser Str. 17 67161 Kaiserslautern CH Tel: 0631-318750 Web: baugsbaptistchurch.de</p> <p>In STUTTGART: IBC Stuttgart Unter Wollmühle 28 70369 Stuttgart - Vaihingen Phone: 0711-681-430 Services: 0930, 1115 Wednesday 9:00AM Pastor Jay McFadden</p> <p>Find your very own Military Grade Uniforms</p>	<p>MPRI</p> <p>Quality Assurance Representatives</p> <p>Individuals are needed for positions within Central Germany. Candidates need to have extensive Motor Pool experience in maintaining U.S. Army tactical vehicles and equipment. Understanding of contracting procedures would be beneficial. Team players possessing excellent written and verbal communication abilities and a strong analytical talent are essential. Proficiency in the user skills of Microsoft's Office 2000 Suite is necessary. Interested? Fax resume to: 0631-414-3408 or e-mail to: ibncso2@t-online.de</p>
<p>DIRECTOR (USO KEFLAVIK)</p> <p>The USO European Headquarters is seeking a Director to manage operations at the Keflavik, Iceland location. The Director would plan, organize and direct operations for the US Military in Keflavik, and transient air traffic visitors. This position will report to the Vice President, Operations for Europe. Applicant must be self-motivated, organized, detail-oriented and a strong manager. In addition to a genuine desire to assist service members at the USO lounge, gift shop and canteen in the terminal, applicants must possess the following:</p> <p>Four-year university degree Strong financial and budgetary skills Understanding of diverse military communities Knowledge of gift shop and food sales operations Retail and food sales experience desirable</p> <p>If interested submit a cover letter and resume to USO Europe via email to: uso.europe@t-online.de. Applications must be received by Skyline 10, 2004. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. EOE/AA www.uso.org</p>	<p>USO - ACCOUNTANT</p> <p>The USO Regional Office located at Mainz-Kastel Station, Germany, is accepting applications for a full-time accounting position. This position performs accounting full-range functions and provides accounting and technical support to USO Field Operations in the Atlantic Region. Minimum requirements: Associates degree in Accounting or Finance; at least 2 yrs experience with public or private accounting; proficiency with spreadsheets & automated accounting systems. Applicants must be I.D. cardholder or I.D. card eligible. To be considered for the position, submit a resume to: USO European Region, Attn: Theres Segler, Ludwig Wölker Strasse 10, Gebäude 4004, 55252 Mainz-Kastel, by fax 06134-286567 or by email to jobs@uso.org by Sept 7.</p> <p>E/OE AA</p>				<p>MPRI</p> <p>Logistics Analysts</p> <p>Individuals must have extensive knowledge in the Maintenance and Logistics of U. S. Army tactical combat vehicles. Recent Motor Pool experience with background skills within the Army Vehicle Maintenance Program is necessary. Familiarity of the Army Procurement, Supply, and Transportation disciplines is desirable. An active team player with excellent written and verbal communication abilities and a strong analytical talent is required. A proficient computer user skill of Microsoft's Office 2000 Professional Suite is necessary. Employment will be in the Kaiserslautern area. If interested, fax resume to: 0631-414-3408 or e-mail to: ibncso2@t-online.de</p>

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SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Australia; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-South Pacific. Listings are late-night available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.

Television

Baseball—Minnesota at Anaheim, joined in progress at 11 a.m. Sunday, SPT; San Francisco at Atlanta, 9 a.m. Sunday, SPT; New York Yankees at St. Louis, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT; Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT; Colorado at Philadelphia, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT; Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT; Los Angeles at San Diego, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT.

Golf—Bancroft-BCCA, Southern California, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT.

Motor racing—Busch Series Ford F150, 9 a.m. Sunday, SPT; Nextel Cup, 10 a.m. Sunday, SPT.

Outdoors—Men's Salt Water Journal, 7:30 a.m. Sunday (dtd) SPT.

Pro football—NFL, preseason, Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 2 p.m. Friday, SPT; Washington at St. Louis, 4 a.m. Saturday, SPT; New England at Carolina, 9 a.m. Sunday, (dtd) SPT.

Tennis—U.S. Open (all on SPT): Preview, 7:30 a.m. Monday, (dtd) SPT.

Olympics (Note: Telecasts listed as "live" at 10 a.m. Eastern frequently are live feeds of NBC's tape-delayed coverage of events which concluded earlier today. Turn to local TV outlets for real-time coverage).

Day 15
1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 (SPT) — Women's basketball: gold medal game, U.S. vs. China.

6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 (SPT) — Boxing: flyweight, gold medal game, U.S. vs. Cuba.

9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 (SPT) — Men's basketball: gold medal game, U.S. vs. Argentina.

2 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 29 — Track and field: men's 100m final, men's 200m final, men's 400m relay final, men's 800m final, men's 1500m final, women's 100m final, women's 200m final, women's 400m final, women's 800m final, women's 1500m final, women's 5000m final, women's 10000m final, women's 20000m final, women's 40000m final, women's 80000m final, women's 160000m final, women's 320000m final, women's 640000m final, women's 1280000m final, women's 2560000m final, women's 5120000m final, women's 10240000m final, women's 20480000m final, women's 40960000m final, women's 81920000m final, women's 163840000m final, women's 327680000m final, women's 655360000m final, women's 1310720000m final, women's 2621440000m final, women's 5242880000m final, women's 10485760000m final, women's 20971520000m final, women's 41943040000m final, women's 83886080000m final, women's 167772160000m final, women's 335544320000m final, women's 671088640000m final, women's 1342177280000m final, women's 2684354560000m 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Suzuki shows greatness in two cultures

After starring in Japan, he's now among the best in majors

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Ichiro Suzuki showed he was a great hitter as soon as he arrived in the United States. Now he's proving to be one of the best in baseball history.

Suzuki became the first player to reach 200 hits in each of his first four major league seasons when he homered Thursday night in the Seattle Mariners' 7-3 loss to the Kansas City Royals.

"The guy is unreal," Royals manager Tony Pena said.

"He's a natural."

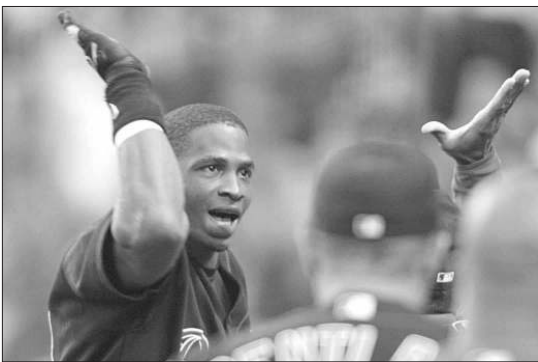
After playing nine seasons in Japan, Suzuki came to Seattle in 2001 and finished with 242 hits, most in the majors since 1930.

He had 208 hits in 2002 and 212 last season. With 36 games to go, he has a shot to break the big league record of 257 set by George Sisler of the St. Louis Browns in 1920.

"At this point, I'm not going to think about that at all," the 30-year-old Suzuki said through a translator. "I think you have goals that you see and that goal is just too far for me to see."

Suzuki sent the first pitch from reliever Jeremy Affeldt over the right-center fence in the ninth inning for his seventh homer of the year. That brought cheers of "Ichiro! Ichiro!" from the crowd of 30,962.

The 2001 AL MVP and four-time All-Star finished 1-for-5 and leads the AL with a



Kansas City's Abraham Nunez is congratulated after hitting a grand slam Thursday night against Seattle.

.364 batting average. He went 0-for-11 after getting his 199th hit Tuesday night against Tampa Bay.

Suzuki had 210 hits in 130 games in Japan in 1994, the only time he had 200 hits in his native country. He reached the milestone this year in his 125th game. "In Japan, at about the 120th game, I had 201 hits," Suzuki said. "To go at about the same pace and do the same thing over here, I didn't imagine doing that. 'I've learned many things,' he said. 'I feel like my skills have gone up and I'm very happy with the way I've progressed.'"

Abraham Nunez hit his second grand slam in two weeks to lead Kansas City.

Rangers 8, Twins 3: While Suzuki has made hitting look easy since joining the Mariners, Chan Ho Park has had a hard time finding any success since signing a \$65 million, five-year contract with Texas before the 2002 season. He enjoyed a warm moment Thursday night, when he returned from a long stint on the disabled list and beat visiting Minnesota.

"It was great," Park said after his 13th victory since signing with Texas. "I understand there has been a lot of disappointment from the fans. I had so much fun today."

Park (3-4) allowed two runs and four hits in six innings to win for the first time since May 12

against Tampa Bay. The 31-year-old right-hander went on the disabled list May 20 with a sore back.

Park, who had not won at home since Sept. 12, 2002, warmed up to start the seventh and was relieved by Ron Mahay. Park received a standing ovation and wore a big grin as he walked toward the dugout.

He has been on the disabled list five times since joining the Rangers. He never was on the DL in six full seasons with Los Angeles.

"It was good for him to be able to smile," Texas manager Buck Showalter said. "It was something we wanted to see. He's had a lot of negative crawling around him."

Hank Blalock homered for the fifth time in six games and Texas (71-55) equaled its victory total from last year. He and Alfonso Soriano each had three RBIs for the Rangers, who are 2½ games behind first-place Oakland in the AL West and two games behind Boston in the wild-card race.

Athletics 9, Orioles 4: Erubiel Durazo hit a three-run homer and Eric Chavez also connected to help the Athletics complete a four-game sweep and send visiting Baltimore to its 10th straight loss.

Barry Zito (10-9) won for the third time in four starts and the A's earned their ninth victory in 10 games. Scott Hatteberg added a three-run double for Oakland, which swept the season series 7-0.

All-Star shortstop Miguel Tejada, who left Oakland to sign with Baltimore during the offseason, went 1-for-15 in the series.

Yankees 7, Blue Jays 4: Alex Rodriguez hit a tiebreaking, two-run single in the ninth off Jason Frasor (4-4) as the visiting Yankees overcame a 4-0 deficit and remained 5½ games ahead of Boston in the AL East. New York has won seven times this year after trailing by at least four runs. C.J. Nix (1-1) got his first victory with the Yankees. Mariano Rivera earned his major league-leading 44th save.

Red Sox 4, Tigers 1: Bronson Arroyo (9-9) allowed only an unearned run and six hits in 7½ innings and the host Red Sox won for the ninth time in 10 games to move a season-best 20 games over .500.

White Sox 14, Indians 9: Carl Everett homered and drove in four runs, sending the host Indians to their 10th loss in 11 games. Ben Davis and Juan Uribe also connected for Chicago, which tied Cleveland for second place in the AL Central. Paul Konerko had three hits and three RBIs.

Dodgers' Gagne, Montreal fans say goodbye

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — Even with Los Angeles enjoying a lead, closer Eric Gagne wanted to pitch in front of his hometown fans one last time.

With the Montreal Expos expected to move following the season, the Dodgers' 10-3 victory Thursday night was likely Gagne's final appearance in Olympic Stadium.

Fans started cheering when he warmed up and he received a standing ovation when he came on to pitch. After a leadoff walk, the defending NL Cy Young Award winner got two strikeouts and a groundout to end it.

"It's real special that to get a warm ovation like this," Gagne said. "I want to get in, because it means a win for us, and a little bit for the fans. It might be the last chance, so I was trying to give a good show out there. It's a big victory here, and the fans are really proud of their athletes, and they showed it tonight."

The Expos joined the major



D.C. area the likely site.

"I know way down deep he must have had some butterflies, even if it was 10-3," Expos coach Claude Raymond said.

Adrian Beltré hit his major league-high 41st homer and Steve Finley had three hits and four RBIs for the Dodgers, who split the four-game series.

Jeff Weaver (12-10) improved to 5-0 in his last six starts, allowing three runs and five hits in six innings and hitting a two-run single in a seven-run sixth.

Livan Hernandez (9-12)

walked two batters with the bases loaded in the sixth, putting the Dodgers ahead 5-3, and allowed eight runs — six earned — in 5½ innings.

Cubs 8, Astros 3: Sammy Sosa and Aramis Ramirez hit consecutive homers in a five-run third at Wrigley Field and Chicago won its fifth straight. The Cubs lead San Francisco by one game and San Diego by two in the NL wild-card race.

Mark Prior (4-3) got his first victory in three weeks, needing 116 pitches to get through six innings. The loss was the third in 11 games for the Astros, who fell seven games behind the Cubs.

Brandon Backe (1-2) gave up seven runs and nine hits in three-plus innings. Carlos Belt-

ran homered for the fourth straight game.

Padres 10, Mets 3: Adam Eaton (9-11) allowed two hits in seven shutout innings to win his seventh straight road start. Mark Loretta drove in three runs and visiting San Diego opened a 10-0 lead in completing a four-game sweep. Steve Trachsel (10-11) gave up six runs and eight hits in 6½ innings.

Giants 5, Marlins 0: Brett Tomko (7-6) pitched a four-hitter at Miami for his first career shutout, striking out four and walking one in his first complete game this season. He is 5-0 in seven starts against the Marlins, who fell seven games behind the Cubs.

Ray Durham hit a two-run homer. Josh Beckett (5-8) lasted

just 5½ innings and departed trailing 4-0.

Reds 1, Cardinals 0: Aaron Harmon (8-6) pitched a three-hitter for his first career complete game and Sean Casey homered in the sixth off Chris Carpenter (13-5).

Carpenter also pitched a three-hitter, striking out 11 in his first complete game since July 29, 2002, with Toronto at Kansas City — also a loss.

Braves 6, Rockies 4: Mike Hampton (10-9) helped himself with an RBI single and Atlanta, heading toward its 13th straight division title, increased its NL East lead to a season-high 9½ games. The host Braves completed a three-game sweep and stretched its winning streak to four. Visiting Colorado lost its fourth straight.

Hampton is 9-3 against Colorado, where he played in 2001-02. He allowed six hits and four walks in six innings but gave up only two runs. John Smoltz pitched the ninth for his 34th save.

Eric Gagne

Dodgers Montreal-born closer

"It's a big family here, and they're really proud of their athletes, and they showed it tonight."

NHL, union further apart after latest talks

The Associated Press

An NHL executive accused the players' association of conducting "a charade" and said the union has no interest in working out a new labor deal before a lockout would be imposed in three weeks.

The sides concluded a two-day negotiating session in Ottawa on Thursday, but came away seemingly further apart than ever. The current collective bargaining agreement expires Sept. 15, and it appears likely that a lockout will occur before any common ground is reached.

"We want to move the process along. They're looking to stall," NHL executive vice president Bill Daly told The Associated Press.

"It's clear that they're engaged in a charade. They want to fill the time between now and Sept. 15, force a lockout and take their chances."

"That's the unfortunate for the sport, unfortunate for the players, and certainly unfortunate for our fans."

NHLPA senior director Ted Sackin denied the claims in an interview with the AP and said that it's the NHL which has been getting ready for a lockout since 1998 in order to get an economic system based on a salary cap.

"To suggest that players are trying to get locked out is absolutely ludicrous," Sackin said. "It's obviously (commissioner Gary Bettman) approach to try to use his lockout to put economic pressure on the players to try to force them to agree to a system they would never negotiate across the table."

The union has vowed it won't accept a salary cap.

In its only proposal since negotiations on a new deal began last October, the union has put forth a system that includes a luxury tax, a salary rollback, and revenue sharing.

The NHL is not interested in that type of deal, and Daly said that the NHLPA has known it for a long time.

During recent negotiating sessions, the NHL has proposed six concepts it feels could lead to a solution. The NHLPA rejected them all, saying that each is predicated on a salary cap.

The sides are scheduled to try together for another two-day meeting next week in Montreal.

Pavin leads by three after 8-under 62 in Buick

CROMWELL, Conn. — Corey Pavin made seven birdies and matched his career low with an 8-under-par 62 for a three-stroke lead in the inaugural Buick Championship on Thursday.

Burn Burns and Matt Weibring

were runner-up at 5-under 65. Bunched four strokes behind the leader with 66s were Fred Funk, David Peoples, Jerry Kelly, Jason Dufner and Craig Bowden.

Pavin started fast, holing a 120-yard wedge shot on the 341-yard second hole for an eagle. His seven-birdie round included a 45-foot chip-in on No. 18.

His only stumble was a bogey on No. 12, when he missed a 10-footer for par.

Three tied atop Wachovia field

KUTZTOWN, Pa. — Laura Diaz had a run of five straight birdies and was tied for the lead with Jill McGill and Hilary Lunke at 6-under-par 66 after the opening round of the Wachovia LPGA Classic.

Hee-Won Han, coming off a runner-up finish last week, birdied five of her first seven holes and got to 7-under before making bogey on Nos. 15 and 16 and dropping into a nine-way tie for fourth at 5-under 67.

Goosen holds 1-stroke edge

NORD EICHENRIED, Germany — Miguel Ángel Jimenez's 66 gave the Spaniard a one-shot lead Friday in the BMW International Open while European players scrambled to make the Ryder Cup team.

Four Ryder Cup berths and two captain's picks are up for grabs in the final qualifying event to make

the 12-man team which plays the Americans at Michigan's Oakland Hills on Sept. 17-19.

"We're all trying to prove we're the man to pick or make the team. I think it's impossible not to have the Ryder Cup on your mind," said Sweden's Fredrik Jacobson.

Jimenez, who's already clinched his second Ryder Cup appearance, posted a two-day total of 10-under 134, a shot better than England's David Lynn.

Jacobson shared the day's best round of 65 and was two strokes off the lead at 136, along with Austria's Markus Brier. Jacobson is Europe's fourth highest ranked player in the world, but probably needs a top-three finish or captain's pick to make the European team.

Colin Montgomerie, a member of five winning Ryder Cup teams, is three strokes back. He survived a double bogey Friday on the sixth hole, and fought to post a 70 after Thursday's 67. He made birdies on Nos. 12, 13 and 15.

John Daly was tied with Montgomerie at 137, along with Denmark's Anders Hansen and Welshman Bradley Dredge.

Trio at 67 leads Tradition

ALOHIA, Ore. — Jose Maria Canizares birdied his last hole to complete a 5-under-par 67 and share the first-round lead with Bruce Summerhays and Vicente Fernandez at the Tradition on

Thursday.

Fuzzy Zoeller was one shot back at the soggy Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in the fifth and final major of the season on the Champions Tour.

Local favorite Peter Jacobsen is one of nine players two strokes back after an opening 69. Defending champion Tom Watson shot a 73 as golfers battled frequent squalls and slow play.

Commercials return to Masters

The Masters is no longer commercial free, signing up three television sponsors Friday for the first time since Martha Burk led a corporate campaign against Augusta National and its all-male membership.

Club chairman Hootie Johnson said the Masters would add 90 minutes of TV coverage and go back to its four minutes of advertising every hour.

Johnson two years ago dropped the Masters' only TV sponsors — IBM, Coca-Cola and Citigroup — to keep them from being pressured by Burk and her National Council of Women's Organizations. Burk had written each company that their sponsorship of the Masters endorsed sex discrimination.

IBM is the only company that returns for the U.S. Masters. The club also signed sponsorship deals with ExxonMobil and SBC Communications.

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Now Accepting Applications for the Fall 2004 Session.

NCAA shuts out FCS's Williams

BY DAVID WHARTON
The Associated Press

In a long-awaited decision, handed on two days before the Southern Cal's opener, the NCAA announced Thursday that it would not reinstate star receiver Mike Williams.

The organization refused to excuse Williams for violating its amateur and academic rules when he tried to join the NFL early—an attempt turned back by the court—last spring.

Coach Pete Carroll, informed of the decision shortly before his team boarded a charter flight for the Black Coaches Association Football Classic in Landover, Md., reacted angrily.

"To take it all the way to one hour before we leave?" he asked. "I couldn't be more disappointed. It's very cold and insensitive of them to deny him this opportunity."

Williams took the news calmly. Snapping by the athletic department Thursday afternoon, he said he had no plans to appeal.

"I'm kind of done with it, I guess," he said. "Them taking this to this just means they believe they gave me a fair evaluation."

NCAA officials had not commented as of Thursday night.

The decision dealt an obvious blow to the Trojans, ranked No. 1 in preseason polls. As a sophomore last season, Williams caught 95 passes for 1,314 yards and 16 touchdowns, helping his team's share of the national championship.

USC plans to start sophomores Steve Smith and Chris McCoy against Virginia Tech on Saturday.

The team is also dealing with the loss of starting tailback Hershel Dennis, suspended while the focus of a sexual assault investigation.

But the Trojans still have a talented defense and quarterback Matt Leinart, a Heisman Trophy candidate. And the new starting receivers have looked impressive in training camp.



Wide receiver Mike Williams, who had 95 receptions for 1,314 yards and 16 touchdowns last season, said he does not plan to appeal the NCAA's decision.

"They work really hard and they've got talent," receiver coach Lane Kiffin said. "The only thing is, they haven't done it in games."

Thursday's decision ended a saga that began six months ago when Ohio State running back Maurice Clarett challenged the NFL and its policy of not drafting any player less than three years out of high school.

When Clarett won in federal court, Williams hired an agent and declared himself eligible for the professional draft. At 6 feet 5 and 230 pounds, the All-American receiver was projected as a first-round pick.

Then an appellate court overturned the lower court's decision and Clarett failed in an appeal to the Supreme Court.

Suddenly, Williams had nowhere to play.

In June, he began the lengthy process of applying for reinstatement. That required severing ties with agent Mike Azzarelli and paying back more than \$100,000, some of it money he'd received in deals with Nike and a trading-card company.

At the same time, Williams had to seek an academic waiver because he had left school during the spring semester, violating NCAA rules that require student-athletes to make steady progress toward their degrees.

Williams was allowed to practice with the team but left during training camp to avoid resolution of his case.

"In a way, you feel like a disraction," he said. "There was such a big stink."

Times staff writer Chris Dufresne contributed to this report.

Jury selection begins Bryant assault trial

BY JON SARCHÉ
The Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — Potential jurors began arriving at the county courthouse Friday, the first step toward choosing 12 people who will decide whether Kobe Bryant is guilty of sexually assaulting a resort worker last summer.

Many arrived by car, though one rode her bicycle to the courthouse despite a chilly breeze and streets wet with overnight rain. Some appeared to know each other, chatting and laughing as they walked up the circular driveway. All are from Eagle County.

Inside near the approximately 500 jury candidates were to fill out 82-item questionnaires that defense attorneys, prosecutors and their consultants have agonized over for weeks. The media have been barred from the courthouse until opening statements begin, probably Sept. 7.

After 14 months of sordid headlines and days of hearings, determining what questions to ask prospective jurors is critical to both sides as they begin jockeying to seat jurors they believe are sympathetic to the arguments.

To do that, attorneys will have to quickly learn a wide variety of details about people who might be uncomfortable in providing them, trial consultant Beth Bonora said.

"You need to understand more than just surface things about someone," she said. "All the social science work done in our field suggests that decision-making based on demographics alone is a futile endeavor. People are more complicated than that."

Bryant, 26, has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault, saying he had consensual sex with the then-19-year-old employee of a Vail-area resort where he stayed last summer. If convicted, the Los Angeles Lakers star faces four years in life in prison or \$750,000.

Of the 999 jury summonses mailed out earlier this month, 165 could not be delivered and 150 people were excused primarily because they are no longer U.S. citizens, state courts spokeswoman Karen Salaz said.

Attorneys were expected to begin closed-door questioning of individual candidates Monday, but at-

orneys for news organizations, including The Associated Press, asked the judge to open much of those sessions. A hearing on that request was scheduled for Monday.

Attorney Christopher Beall said the First Amendment requires courts to open jury selection procedures to the public. He said portions of the questioning can be closed to the public if a potential juror asks for a private hearing to answer questions regarding his or her personal history.

Meanwhile, prosecutors are refining their request for a hearing so they can challenge DNA evidence the defense says shows the accused had sex with someone else hours after leaving Bryant.

During a hearing Thursday, District Judge Terry Ruckriegle chastised prosecutors for waiting until the last minute to file a request he said was incomplete. He said he should deny it because the hearing most likely would delay the trial, but then gave prosecutors until Tuesday to file a new request with more information.

Prosecutor Dana Easter told Ruckriegle that DNA test results from laboratories hired by Bryant's attorneys indicated there was contamination in control samples intended to ensure accurate testing.

He said that threw into question the reliability of conclusions made by defense DNA expert Elizabeth Johnson, who has testified she believes the accused had sex with someone else soon after her encounter with Bryant. The woman's attorneys have denied that claim.

Easter said she could not have questioned the results earlier because the defense dragged its feet in providing information needed to evaluate DNA test results.

"We have acted as well as we can," she told the judge. "The prosecution has not had \$12 million to pay for experts."

Defense attorney Hal Haddon said prosecutors' requests for the hearing and for information he says has already been provided were made primarily to inflame public opinion on the eve of trial.

"These motions are humbly designed to distract us from trial preparation, designed to generate cheap headlines and most of all, designed to confuse the jury," he said.

Ruckriegle ordered prosecutors to turn over laboratory logs of actions taken to correct any problems.

Staley returns to Philly a winner

BY ROB MAADDI
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Duce Staley showed the Philadelphia Eagles what they're missing. Willie Parker showed the Pittsburgh Steelers what he can do.

Staley ran for 37 yards and one touchdown in limited action against his former team, and Parker had 106 yards rushing and one TD, leading the Steelers to a 27-21 victory over the Eagles in an exhibition game Thursday.

"It felt great," Staley said. "I have a lot of good memories from when I played here."

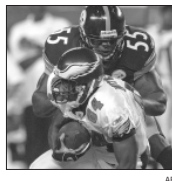
Dante Brown also had a TD run for the Steelers.

An undrafted rookie from North Carolina, Parker perhaps earned himself a roster spot with his performance.

"I felt great about the other running backs out there who were drafted, I have a chip on my shoulder," Parker said.

Reno Mahe ran for a score and Le'Veon Bell and Greg Lewis had TD catches for the Eagles.

A three-time 1,000-yard rusher in seven seasons in Philadelphia,



Pittsburgh linebacker Joy Porter stops Philadelphia receiver Duce Staley (84) during the Steelers' 27-21 victory on Thursday.

Staley ran six times for 33 yards on the opening drive, capping it with a nifty 14-yard rushing run.

After running into the end zone, Staley went straight to the stands and handed the football to young boy wearing a Donovan McNabb jersey.

"It was just spur of the moment," Staley said.

Philadelphia didn't make a strong push to retain Staley, a fan

favorite who again heard the familiar chants of "Duuuuce!" each time he touched the ball. But the Eagles could use him now after losing Correll Buckhalter to a season-ending knee injury last week.

After Jeff Blake connected with Lewis on a 14-yard TD pass to give the Eagles a 21-17 lead, the Steelers went ahead on Parker's 3-yard TD run early in the fourth quarter.

Ben Roethlisberger, the No. 11 pick in April's draft, was tackled on his first play and finished seven of 11 for 74 yards and one interception. Starter Tommy Maddox was four of six for 53 yards.

Terrill Owens, the Eagles' biggest offseason acquisition, didn't have a catch. His 41-yard TD reception in the first quarter was negated by a 14-yard pass on Tra Thomas. He later dropped a catch that hit him in the chest.

McNabb was eight of 19 for 105 yards and two TDs. Blake was six of seven for 63 yards and one TD.

"We're not where we want to be right now," McNabb said. "The exciting part is we're putting points up on the board when we're doing that, you've got some positive things to look at."

Another Cardinal injured

The Associated Press

PRISCOTT, Ariz. — Arizona Cardinals defensive end Fred Wakefield has a stress fracture in his right foot and will miss 6-8 weeks.

He is the sixth Cardinals player to suffer a serious injury this summer, joining running back Marcel Shreve (broken leg), wide receiver Anquan Boldin (right knee), defensive tackle Kenny King (knee wrist), fullback James Hodgins (shoulder) and receiver Bryant Johnson (broken right foot).

Ship is out for the season and King could be, too.

Boldin is out until mid-October and Hodgins won't be back until mid-September.

Rookie receiver Larry Fitzgerald is hobbled by a sprained left ankle. Fitzgerald and Johnson likely will sit out the team's final two exhibition games.

Jaguars sign PK Christie

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Jacksonville Jaguars signed rookie kicker Larry Fitzgerald on Thursday.

The 36-year-old Christie spent the previous three seasons with San Diego, where he made 42 of 57 field goals.

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Jones shut out in Athens

BY ROB GLOSTER
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — A botched relay handoff doomed Marion Jones' chances of winning a medal in the Athens Olympics, a disastrous ending to her summer of turmoil and disappointment.

Hoping to win a pair of golds Friday, Marion Jones was shut out instead. An hour after she finished fifth in the long jump, Jones was unable to make the handoff in the 400-meter relay when Lauryn Williams left too early.

Williams was left grasping at air while Jones reached desperately for her teammate.

The U.S. relay team, which had taken gold for granted and was aiming for a world record, could only watch as Jamaica won the gold in 41.73 seconds. Russia won the silver medal in 42.27. France got the bronze at 42.54.

Jones, running second, was close to the lead as she approached Williams. But Jones reached once, shouted "Wait up! Wait up!" as she reached a second time, then finally was able to give the baton to Williams on the third attempt — nearly running into her younger teammate.

By then Williams was already out of the 20-meter handoff zone, which means automatic disqualification.

As the race proceeded without them, Jones put her arm around Williams, the 100-meter silver medalist, and the two walked slowly to the end of the track. Jones clutched Williams' hand tightly as the two left the track after the race.

Jones still won five medals in Sydney, including three gold, to become an international superstar. But she gave birth to a son



Marion Jones of the United States competes in the long jump final at the Olympic Stadium on Friday. Jones finished fifth in the competition.

14 months ago, interrupting her training, and then came under investigation by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. She failed to qualify for the Olympic 100 or 200 the year, leaving the long jump and relay as her only events.

She has repeatedly denied using performance-enhancing substances, but ex-husband C.J. Hunter reportedly has told federal agents Jones used banned drugs before, during and after the Sydney Games.

In the 110-meter hurdles, Liu Xiang of China tied the world record and smashed the Olympic record by 0.4 seconds while winning in 12.91. American Terrence

Trammell won silver for the second straight Olympics, finishing way behind Liu in 13.18, and defending champion Anier Garcia of Cuba took bronze in 13.20.

American Timothy Mack won the men's pole vault by clearing an Olympic record 19 feet, 6 1/4 inches. American Toby Stevenson won the silver medal at 19 feet, 4 1/4 inches. Giuseppe Gibilisco of Italy took bronze with 19 feet, 2 1/4 inches.

Other winners were Robert Korzeniowski of Poland, who took his third consecutive gold medal in the 50-kilometer walk; Oleksiy Menendez of Cuba in the javelin; and Xing Huina of China in the women's 10,000.

Swoopes saves day for U.S. vs. Russia

Women's basketball team advances to final, Sydney rematch with Australia for gold medal

BY CHUCK SCHOFFNER
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Frustrated by fouls, turnovers and a feisty opponent, the United States desperately looked for help.

Along came Sheryl Swoopes. Swoopes made three big plays at the end — two baskets and another on defense — to help the U.S. squeeze out a 66-62 semifinal victory over Russia on Friday. Now, only one game stands between the U.S. team and a third straight gold medal — Australia on Saturday.

"We just weathered the storm," Lisa Leslie said. "We showed a lot of heart and stayed together and Swoopes stepped up for the end."

Australia beat Brazil 88-75 behind Lauren Jackson's 26 points and 13 rebounds. It's a rematch of the gold medal game in Sydney four years ago, when the United States won 76-54.

The U.S. knows it earned its berth because the game with Russia was neither easy nor pretty. After winning their first six games by an average of 29 points, the U.S. team found itself in the rare position of having to fend off an opponent with time running out.

"Enter Swoopes, who hadn't made a basket in this game."

With her team clinging to a 60-58 lead, Swoopes buried a jumper from the left wing with 34 seconds left, just before the shot clock. She deflected a Rus-

sian shot at the other end, then scored again, hitting a 10-footer from the left baseline to make it 64-58 with 3:15 left.

When Lisa Leslie fed Tina Thompson for a layup, it was 66-58 with 2:50 to go, enough of a cushion for the United States to hold on for its 24th straight victory in the Olympics.

That sigh of relief on the sideline came from U.S. coach Van Chancellor, who abandoned his more casual attire for a sharp gray sports coat and black slacks. By the start of the second half, the coat was off and Chancellor rarely sat down.

"Once I let the first one go, it felt really good. I kind of knew that one was going in," said Swoopes, who missed her first five shots and finished 2-for-8. "It felt really good to be able to come through down the stretch because I felt throughout the game I kind of let my teammates down."

Thompson led the United States with 14 points, including a key three-pointer early in the fourth quarter. Leslie and Tamiya Catchings scored 11 each and Catchings made an absolute pest of herself by poking the ball away, intercepting passes and running down loose balls. She finished with five steals and five rebounds.

Yolanda Griffith added 10 points and seven rebounds.

"We've been through everything now," Catchings said. "Now it's a matter of relaxing for the game tomorrow."

Light heavyweight Ward only U.S. boxer in finals

BY TIM DAHLBERG
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — The crowd booed Andre Ward when he walked into the arena, and cheered when he slipped on the canvas. Through the din, he heard a small group of friends and family chant "USA, USA" before even more boos drowned that out.

It was lonely enough being the last American boxer left in the Olympics. Now Ward had to find a way to deal with a hostile crowd in the stands and a tough Uzbekistan in the ring.

He managed to do it, but just barely, scoring two rounds in the final seconds Friday night to eke out a 17-15 victory and become the only U.S. fighter to advance to a gold-medal bout.

"You never want someone to boo you, but it's here and it's happening and you have to adjust," Ward said. "We're in another country so they're obviously not going to be the American flag much respect."

Fighting just hours after teammate Andre Dirrell lost his semi-

final bout, Ward and Uzbek Bek Haydarov engaged in an ugly fight filled with holding and inside punching that was in doubt all the way until the final bell.

After it sounded and Ward's hand was raised in victory, the crowd jamming the Peristeri boxing arena booed him even more.

Little did they know Ward was turning the boos into something positive.

"I like it. It motivates me," he said. "I feel like they're not showing me any respect and I take that personally. They're also not showing me any respect and I take that personally, too."

On a day when the powerful Cuban team advanced seven fighters to the finals and British teenage sensation Amir Khan came up big again, Ward took a step toward salvaging battered American hopes in the Olympics and put the United States once dominant.

He had to overcome some confusion in his corner over the scoring, and it wasn't pretty. But it was good to see him put him in the light heavyweight gold-medal final Sunday against Magomed Arifagadjiev of Belarus.

No gold: Long fall for U.S. since Barcelona Games

NO GOLD, FROM BACK PAGE

of back packs that turned the start of the second half into a lumpy drill.

Argentina's players celebrated wildly when the game ended, and the crowd yelled "Ole!" U.S. coach Larry Brown walked over and gave a handshake and hug to his Argentine counterpart, Ruben Magnano, who played for Argentina against the first Dream Team in Barcelona.

A dozen years later, Magnano's team became the first to knock the U.S. out of gold medal contention since the Soviet Union did it in Seoul in 1988.

NBA Commissioner David Stern attended the third loss of the Athens Games for the U.S.,

which entered the tournament with a 109-2 record in Olympics.

Their first loss to Puerto Rico was shocking for its decisiveness, and their second to Lithuania finally got the message across to the players on the young U.S. roster that the level of the competition was a whole lot better than they had imagined.

The U.S. team had been playing better since, and its best effort came Thursday in a victory over previously undefeated Spain.

But just a day later, they went back to missing three-point shots, didn't get a breakout performance from any of their NBA stars and couldn't make a sustained comeback after they fell behind by a double-digit margin.

The first half ended with Argentina ahead 43-38 after its big men outplayed the U.S. and showed themselves capable of playing with as much flair as anyone.

The half's prettiest play came on the 3-on-1 break when Hugo Scatochini, one of the team's elder statesmen, tossed a nifty behind-the-back pass to Alejandro Montecchia for a high-arching layup over Richard Jefferson that gave Argentina a 42-33 lead.

The U.S. shot just 36 percent in the first half and didn't hit its first three-pointer — missing its first five — until LeBron James made one 30 seconds before halftime.

Argentina shot 54 percent overall and 11-of-22 from three-point range, while the U.S. finished just 32-of-77 (42 percent) and 3-for-11 on threes. Stephen Marbury led the U.S. with 18 points.

2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Fischer wins 8th Olympic gold

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Iraq's surprising Olympic success run came up short with a 1-0 loss to Italy in a bronze-medal game that couldn't escape reminders of violence in the war-torn country.

Just before kickoff Friday night, the teams exchanged

Olympics medal roundup

words of condolence for Italian journalist Enzo Baldoni, who was killed by Iraqi militants seeking to force Italy's troops out of Iraq.

Italian players also wore black armbands to honor Baldoni.

On the field, Alberto Gilardino scored his fourth goal of the tournament in the eight minute to seal Italy's first soccer medal since it won gold in the 1936 Berlin Games.

The loss meant the Iraqis go home with nothing after seeking to win the nation's first medal of any kind since 1960. Adnan Hamad's players, who were unable to play any qualifying games in Baghdad because no teams would travel there, made many friends by reaching the semifinals.

Modern pentathlon

Women: Three-time world champion Zsuzsanna Vörös of Hungary won the gold medal. She had a 41-second head start on her nearest rival entering the final 3-kilometer run and had time at the end to grab a Hungarian flag from the stands.



Army Capt. Anita Allen of the United States, left, attacks Monica Pinette of Canada during their bout in the women's modern pentathlon on Friday in Athens, Greece. Allen finished 18th overall in the event.

Latvia's Jelena Rublevska ended with the silver medal. Georgina Harland of Britain took the bronze medal.

Army Capt. Anita Allen finished 18th overall, and was the top scorer in the riding competition.

Cycling

Women's mountain bike: Norway's Gunn-Rita Dahle dominated for her 15th consecutive victory in an internationally sanctioned race. Since May 2003, Dahle — whose time was 1 hour, 56 minutes, 51 seconds — has won 28 of 32 races she's entered.

Mary McConnell of Fairfax, Calif., the lone American in the Olympic women's field, placed ninth. Canada's Marie-Helene Prevost won the silver in 1:57:50, and reigning world champion Sabine Spitz of Germany got the bronze in 1:59:21.

Taekwondo

Men's 68 kg: Hadi Saei Boneh-kohal of Iran won the gold medal, beating Chih Hsiung Huang of Taiwan 4-3. Song Myeong-seob of South Korea got the bronze.

Women's 57 kg: Jang Ji-won of South Korea won the gold with a 2-1 victory over Nia Abdallah of the United States. Irina Sadala Blanco of Mexico won the bronze.

Synchronized swimming

Team: Russia won the gold medal with a score of 99.501. Japan took the silver at 98.501. The United States got the bronze at 97.418.

Field hockey

Men: Jamie Dwyer's overtime goal gave Australia its first gold medal in the event. In the bronze-medal game, Bjorn Michel scored in overtime to give Germany a 3-2 win over Spain.

Olympics scoreboard

Friday's scores	
BASKETBALL	
Men Semifinals	
Australia 88, United States 81	
Women Semifinals	
France 87, Zealand 83	
FINA	
Men 100m	
Czech Republic 29.58, Spain 28.88	
Women 100m	
United States 66.22, Russia 66.22	
FIELD HOCKEY	
Men	
Argentina 4, Egypt 2	
Women	
Spain 3, Africa 3	
SOCCER	
Men	
Italy 1, Iraq 1	
Women	
France 29, Spain 27	
Handball	
Men	
Croatia 33, Hungary 31	
Women	
Spain 29, Hungary 27	
Volleyball	
Men	
Italy 3, Russia 0 (25-16, 25-17, 25-16)	
Women	
Italy 3, United States 0 (25-16, 25-17, 25-23)	
WATER POLO	
Men	
Kazakhstan 15, Egypt 7	
Women	
United States 6, Australia 5	
Italy 11, Croatia 1	

Hungary 7, Russia 5

Serbia-Montenegro 7, Greece 3

Boxing

Semifinals

Men

Atagun Yalcinkaya, Turkey, def. Sergey Kazakov, Russia, 26-20

Uy. Rhabriel, Venezuela, Cuba, def. Zou Shiming, China, 29-23

Women

Yuriko's Gamboa, Toledo, Cuba, def. Rustamova Rakhim, Germany, 20-11

Artem, Azerbaijan, 25-15

54 kg

Gilberto Riquelme, Cuba, def. Bahodir Soatibon, Uzbekistan, 27-21

Wladimir Petukhov, Thailand, def. Aghasi Mammadov, Azerbaijan, 27-19

60 kg

Kim Song Kuk, North Korea, def. Vitali Tshibanga, Germany, 29-24

Artem, Azerbaijan, 25-15

69 kg

Amir Khan, Britain, def. Serik Yeluev, Kazakhstan, 40-26

Yusef Cisar, Kazakhstan, Cuba, def. Maris Boklanov, Russia, 29-26

81 kg

Muhammad Ali, Egypt, def. Michel Lopez Nunez, Cuba, 16-16

91 kg

Artem, Azerbaijan, 25-15

108 kg

Lorenzo Aragon, Armenia, Cuba, def. Kim Jung Joo, South Korea, 38-10

135 kg

Gaydarbek, Gaydarbekov, Russia, def. Suria Prasad, Kazakhstan, 24-18

160 kg

Andre Ward, Oakland, Calif., def. Ukibek Haydarov, Uzbekistan, 17-15

216 kg

Magomed Magomedov, Belarus, def. Alexander Povlov, Russia, 24-18

264 kg

Daglan Solis Fortes, Cuba, def. Naser Al Shaghy, Kazakhstan, 24-18

300 kg

Vladimir, Uzbekistan, def. Mohamed El-Sayed, Egypt, 24-18

Over 91 kg

Alexander Povlov, Russia, def. Roberto Cammarelle, Italy, 31-19

Cycling

Semifinals

Men

1. Gunn-Rita Dahle, Norway, 1:56:51

2. Marie-Helene Prevost, Canada, 1:57:50

3. Sabine Spitz, Germany, 1:59:21

4. Alison Syrett, Canada, 1:59:47

5. Edoelth van Rooij, Netherlands, 2:01:41

6. Maja Wozniakowska, Poland, 2:02:08

7. Viviane Klicke, Germany, 2:05:18

8. Mary McConnell, Fairfax, Calif., 2:06:12

Women

1. Zsuzsanna Vörös, Hungary (11:20, 9:16, 12:08, 11:00, 52:46)

2. Jelena Rublevska, Latvia (08:18, 10:28, 11:06, 10:58, 50:50)

3. Georgina Harland, Britain (08:32, 13:08, 11:10, 10:50, 53:12)

4. Claudia Corsini, Italy (06:54, 12:32, 11:16, 10:50, 51:32)

5. Kim Baisner, Germany (10:72, 8:32, 12:56, 11:10, 53:10)

6. Sylwia Czechowska, Poland (08:40, 8:50, 12:16, 11:16, 50:52)

7. Viktoriya Tereshchenko, Ukraine (10:60, 6:02, 11:14, 11:40, 52:56)

8. Kate Allenby, Britain (06:54, 9:16, 12:72, 11:04, 50:26, 52:36)

U.S. eishers

15. Mary Beth Lapsley, Mukwonago, Ill. (7:00, 8:32, 12:52, 11:44, 10:64, 50:62)

16. Michelle Clark, Chula Vista, Calif. (7:02, 11:02, 11:44, 10:56, 50:92)

17. Phillip Dunn, San Diego, 41:24

Canoe-Kayak

Men

1. Erik Verbruggen, Norway, 3:25.887

2. Adam van Kooylen, Canada, 3:28.218

3. Adam van Kooylen, Canada, 3:28.218

4. Adam van Kooylen, Canada, 3:28.218

5. Tim Brabants, Britain, 3:30.553

6. David Cal, Spain, 3:46.201

7. Alexander Povlov, Russia, 3:46.721

8. Attila Vajda, Hungary, 3:49.025

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Fischer Hamm to give up gold

By EDIE PELLIS

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — World gymnastics officials asked Paul Hamm to give up his gold medal as the ultimate show of sportsmanship, but the U.S. Olympic Committee told them to take responsibility for their own mistakes and refused even to deliver the request.

In a dispute over scores that has turned into a political squabble, the head of the International Gymnastics Federation suggested a letter to Hamm that giving the all-around gold medal to South Korea's Yang Tae-yong would be recognized as the ultimate demonstration of fair play by the whole world.

FIG president Bruno Pandi tried to send the letter Thursday night to Hamm through the USOC, which declined to pass it along.

In a letter back to Grandi, USOC secretary general Jim Storti called the request "a blatant and inappropriate attempt on the part of (FIG) to once again shift responsibility for its own mistakes and instead pressure Mr. Hamm into resolving what has become an embarrassing situation for your federation."

"The USOC finds this request to be improper, outrageous and so far beyond the bounds of what is acceptable that it refuses to transmit the letter to Mr. Hamm," Grandi's letter said.

Hamm returned to the United States earlier this week. He de-

clined comment Friday through his agent, but he has said in the past that he has no intention of giving up his gold medal unless ordered to do so by FIG.

Yang, the bronze medalist, was wronged because a tenth of a point on his parallel bars routine and finished third, 0.049 points behind Hamm. Add the extra 0.100, and Hamm would have finished 0.051 points ahead of Hamm.

Three judges were suspended after the error was discovered, but FIG said the results would stand.

Although Grandi's letter says, "The true winner of the all-around competition is Yang Tae-yong," the FIG president insisted he's not pressuring Hamm.

"There is no doubt he has won the gold," Grandi said. "He deserves the medal and the ranking is clear. ... I respect totally Paul Hamm and all the decisions he makes. If he says give back the medal, I respect it. Doing so will back the medal, I respect the decision. He is not responsible for anything."

The USOC had a much different interpretation.

"I don't know of any comparison in any sport anywhere where you crown the loser as the winner and then say, 'Oh, that was a mistake. Would you fix this for us?'" USOC chairman Peter Ueberroth said.

Earlier in the week, the USOC said it was willing to consider supporting the South Koreans' bid for a second gold medal. Scherz said there was no longer possible because of FIG's latest request.

1. Martin Drost, Czech Republic, 3:50.405

2. Stephen Giles, Canada, 3:51.407

3. Belgium (Katelyn de Caluwe, Jan Houtbeek, Eelke Oudorp, Gert-Jan van der Grinten), 3:51.407

4. Nigeria Gloria Kemusode, Mercy Nwaele, Oluwadara Osaro, Oluwadara Ojo, 3:51.407

5. United States (Angela Williams, Marion Jones, Lauren Williams, Latacha Collier), 3:51.407

Women

1. Ying Hu, China, 3:50.405

2. Eelke Oudorp, Netherlands, 3:50.405

3. Veronika Kuderova, Slovakia, 3:50.405

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19. Veronika Kuderova, Slovakia, 3:50.405

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21. Veronika Kuderova, Slovakia, 3:50.405

22. Veronika Kuderova, Slovakia, 3:50.405

23. Veronika Kuderova, Slovakia, 3:50.405

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Goodbye: Senior group passes tradition of winning to young players

GOODBYE, FROM BACK PAGE

us of what we've always loved the American team for most, not the medals, but the honesty of their effort over all those years, when they played with no one watching, for waitresses' pay.

"Dedicated," Foudy said. "I think people will remember that we were dedicated."

As the final whistle blew, Hamm suddenly appeared at Foudy's side, and grabbed her in an embrace. Then the circle of the hug began to grow, to include the fellow teammates who essentially founded women's soccer in the United States more than a dozen years ago, when they made exactly \$250 per game, and played across whole continents when it was considered a game strictly for men.

"There are few times in life when you get to write the final chapter the way you want to, and a lot of us got to do that tonight," Hamm said.

For the medal ceremony, they approached the podium together, holding hands, their arms wrapped around each other, no air between them. That's when they started playing what they like to call "the telephone game." Foudy turned to Fawcett and said, "Right foot forward, pass it down," dictating instructions.



Even with veteran players retiring, the future of the United States women's soccer team seems to be in good hands with Abby Wambach (16), who scored the winning goal in Thursday's gold-medal game.

The message was murmured under the line.

Then Foudy said, "Bottle of vodka, pass it down."

Still cracking up, together they stepped up to the medal stand, and fairly shouted the national anthem. Then they returned to the locker room, where a slightly more somber mood took hold. Some of them had played together for 17 years, sharing a litany of victories: the first Women's World Cup in '91, Olympic gold in Atlanta in '96, and their magnificent World Cup victory again in '99, when Chastain tore off her shirt and displayed the abs heard round the world. But they'd also

suffered wrenching losses in the past four years, aging runners-up to younger teams, teams from countries where they had helped to sow the game. "It's gotten harder and harder," Foudy said. "And that makes it sweeter."

But that it's finally time for them to step away is obvious. Hamm, Foudy and Fawcett have all declared their retirements from the international game, while Lilly and Chastain are considering how much longer they can or will play. There was no uncertainty in Hamm, who acknowledged she was carried through the final by her younger teammates. "If you only knew how my body feels right now," she said.

The final goals of the tournament, Foudy pointed out, were scored by some of the youngest members of the team: Heather O'Reilly, 19, Lindsay Tarpley, 20, and Wambach, 24.

The legacy the senior group passes on to the younger players is immense: They can be credited with nothing less than the founding of women's soccer as an international game. But they leave a legacy in the small things, too. Through it all, they've never put a foot wrong, or behaved like anything other than champions. They were the nicest and best behaved athletes on the planet, no self-absorbed egotists, no whining about life's unfairness, no jealous spats or wretched excesses. The worst that could be said of them was that they were joyous carousers. They were one of the few things left in sports you could watch without suspicion.

Perhaps their most pleasant quality as a group was that they weren't particularly conscious of their specialness. Hamm, for instance, has never seemed aware that she's pretty. The greatest goal scorer in the game and one of the most photogenic female athletes is, as it happens, deeply shy. At an awards banquet a few years ago, Hamm tried to explain why she had always been so self-conscious in public.

The trouble, she said, was that people watched you, whether you liked it or not. "So who am I to say I'm not a role model?" she said.

Even after all these years she wears the pained expression of a wallflower at a dance, and talks as if it's been unbearably selfish of her to have inflicted this soccer business on us. Hamm's first order of business now that she's retired from international play, she says, is to repay her family.

"It's time for me to repay them and ask them what they need in their lives," she said.

In the locker room after the medal ceremony, Hamm, Foudy and the other senior members addressed the team. There was a lot of talk about torch-passing and some final remarks. The theme was, "That it's more than just soccer, you know?" Foudy said. "It's bigger than that."

Then Foudy told the team that it wasn't really goodbye. Whenever the U.S. team plays for a big prize, she said, she will be there, and so will Hamm, and Chastain, and all the others. Only they would be in the bleachers. "We're looking forward to cheering you on, screaming for more gold medals," she said.

It was a pleasant thought Foudy entertained, as she left the stadium as an Olympian for the last time. "We'll be right there, in the front row," she said, "drinking beers and being hooligans."

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SPORTS



Wide receiver Williams kept from returning to Southern Cal by NCAA, Page 36



U.S. players Allen Iverson, left, and Tim Duncan watch from the bench during the second half of Friday's 89-81 loss to Argentina in the men's basketball semifinals.

No gold for U.S. men

Argentina relegates Americans to bronze-medal game

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Bronze is the best the American men's basketball team can do, and the reason is simple: They were beaten by a better team, Argentina.

Manu Ginobili scored 29 points to lead his nation to another victory over the country that used to dominate the sport, an

89-81 victory in the Olympic semifinals Friday night.

For the first time since 1988, the gold medal will not go to the Americans. And for the first time since pro players were added for the original Dream Team in 1992, the United States will not be the Olympic champion.

Argentina, with almost the same roster that made history in 2002 by becoming the

first team to defeat a U.S. squad of NBA players, will compete for the gold medal against the winner of Friday's late game between Lithuania and Italy.

The Argentines were the better passers, shooters and defenders.

They confronted the Americans with a mixture of man-to-man and zone defenses, and confounded them with an assortment

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The goodbye girls

Women's soccer's Fab Five gold to the last drop

ATHENS, Greece
In bidding goodbye to those would-be has-beens Mia Hamm, Julie Foudy, Brandi Chastain, Kristine Lilly and Joy Fawcett, the most proper tribute is to raise an adult beverage, blow the foam from the top, swallow deeply and capsize with laughter. That's no doubt what they're off doing right now, reveling as they tell the alternately brave and comedic story of their self-made miracle of pride, the U.S. women's national soccer team. But here's the thing about has-beens. If you make yourself unforgettable, you never have to be one.

They played together for their country one last time in the Olympics, and somehow, some way, they won a last, late gold medal, and the pitch we began to miss them. Patently slower and not quite what they once were, ranging in age from 32 to 36, there seemed to be absolutely no way they could win against a fleet and sure-footed Brazilian team that was, on average, 10 years younger. But just when there was nothing left in their legs but the sensation of age, a youngster named Abby Wambach headed in a goal in the 112th minute, for a 2-1 victory that sent them out of the game as forever champions.

"We just said, 'We're going out on top, and that's how it's going to be,'" said Foudy, her hair dripping wet under a fisherman's cap, "and we never stopped believing it."

In those last seemingly interminable minutes, the soccer wasn't glorious, but it was tough and it was determined, and the player most representative of that was midfielder and team captain Foudy, who a day earlier was on crutches with a badly sprained ankle. "I think I'll just have them chop it off and I'll drag my stump out there if I have to," Foudy had joked. In fact, she played every last minute of this game, and in doing so reminded

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Mia Hamm of the United States pauses while waiting for the medal ceremony Thursday after the U.S. beat Brazil 2-1 in overtime for the gold medal. Hamm, Julie Foudy and Joy Fawcett are retiring from international soccer. Brandi Chastain and Kristine Lilly are undecided.

Medal count

Leaders after 256 medal events, in the 2004 Olympics through Friday, Aug. 27:

Country	G	S	B	Total
United States	29	34	27	90
Russia	17	23	28	68
China	27	17	13	57
Australia	17	11	16	44
Germany	12	14	18	44
Japan	15	10	10	35
France	10	7	11	28
Italy	9	7	10	26
South Korea	8	10	8	26
Britain	7	8	11	26

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